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Chickasaw Times

One Tribe One Mission

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Upcoming Events

Fall Festival
Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Chickasaw Cultural Center
Sulphur, Okla.
(580) 622-7130

Fernando Padilla Workshop
Oct. 17 & Nov. 7
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
ARTesian Gallery & Studios
Sulphur
(580) 622-8040

Harvest Fest
Oct. 24
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Chickasaw White House
Emet, Okla.
(580) 371-3351

Spooky Tales
Oct. 22, 6 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building
Ada, Okla.
(580) 272-5520

Spooky Tales
Oct. 24, 6 p.m.
Chickasaw Cultural Center
Sulphur
(580) 272-5520

Spooky Tales
Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
Exhibit C, Oklahoma City
(580) 272-5520

Spooky Tales
Oct. 27, 6 p.m.
Boggy Depot Historic Park
Atoka, Okla.
(580) 272-5520

Veterans Day
November 7-8,
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Chickasaw Cultural Center
Sulphur
(580) 622-7130

Chickasaw Times

The Chickasaw Times app provides fast and easy access to news and events of the Chickasaw Nation while you are on the move!

NAJA
Native American Journalists Association

Chickasaw Times Online

Four decades of service

Gov. Bill Anoatubby takes the oath of office for an unprecedented eighth consecutive term during inauguration ceremonies Oct. 1 in Ada. Alongside Gov. Anoatubby are his wife, Janice, sons Brian, far left, and Chris, far right, and their families. Tribal Supreme Court Chief Justice Mark Colbert administers the oath of office. *Photo by Marcy Gray.*

Gov. Anoatubby inaugurated for eighth term

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby marked the beginning of an unprecedented eighth consecutive term at the historic inauguration ceremony October 1 in the Ataloa Theatre, on the campus of East Central University.

"It is a great honor to serve the Chickasaw people as governor of the Chickasaw Nation," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We have made tremendous progress working together with the Chickasaw people. With their continued support, we believe our greatest achievements are yet to come.

"It is exciting to look toward the future of the Chickasaw Nation as we travel together toward an even brighter future."

Gov. Anoatubby has served 28 years as governor of the tribe, and he has been working for the Chickasaw people for a total of 40 years. Before he was first elected governor in 1987, Bill Anoatubby gained valuable experience working as a tribal employee.

He began work for the Chickasaw Nation in 1975 as health services director. A year later, he was asked to direct the finance department. In October 1978, he was promoted to special assistant to the governor and controller. In 1979, he was elected the tribe's first lieutenant governor.

When he began working for the Chickasaw Nation in 1975 as health services director his office was in Sulphur, Okla., in the Chickasaw Motor Inn.

In 1975, tribal trust funds were used to fund the tribal government operations budget of $25,000. That budget paid the salaries and expenses of the governor and a bonded treasurer.

Federal funding, on the other hand, paid the salaries and expenses of those involved in delivering federal programs. Federal sources of funding provided less than $1 million, which came with very strict guidelines on its use.

"At the time it seemed like a lot of money, but it was not nearly enough to provide the services we needed," Gov. Anoatubby said. "If

SEE **INAUGURATION,** PAGE 11

'Spooky Tales' to feature Chickasaw storytellers

Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities will host the annual Spooky Tales Storytelling Concert at four locations in October. Storytellers Stephanie Scott, Dixie Brewer and Lorie Robins Carmichael will be featured. Guests are invited to join in the Halloween spirit with haunted tales during the following dates:

Oct. 22, 6 p.m.
Arts & Humanities building
201 N. Broadway
Ada, Okla.

Oct. 24, 6 p.m.
Chickasaw Cultural Center
867 Cooper Memorial Dr.
Sulphur, Okla.

Oct. 26, 3 p.m.
Exhibit C Gallery
1 East Sheridan, Ste. 100
Oklahoma City

Oct. 27, 6 p.m.
Boggy Depot Historic Park
Atoka, Okla.

Directions to Boggy Depot
Boggy Depot Historic Park is located in Atoka, Okla. To get to Boggy Depot, take SH-7 east of Wapanucka, turn south on Park Lane and travel four miles.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or at artistinfo@chickasaw.net.

Veterans select Warrior Society logo

OPTION - C

ADA, Okla. – The official logo of the Chickasaw Warrior Society has been selected by retired and active duty Chickasaws serving in America's armed forces.

The design features the Chickasaw Warrior – as envisioned by artist Enoch Kelly Haney – against an American flag background. Thousands of Chickasaw warriors cast ballots to decide among three logo proposals.

The Society is one part of several initiatives announced by the Chickasaw Nation to improve the quality of life for Chickasaw veterans.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby pledged expansion of tribal benefits to Chickasaw veterans and an effort to "reach out to our veterans across this country." He announced the tribe would build a 13,200 square-foot Veterans Lodge on the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center campus in Ada.

"It will be a place for our veterans to gain access and resources

SEE **WARRIOR,** PAGE 12

'Visionary leader, irreplaceable friend'

Governor Emeritus Overton James dies at 90

Overton James, who served as Governor of the Chickasaw Nation from 1963 to 1987, died Wednesday, September 16, 2015. He was the youngest man to serve as governor of the tribe.

Gov. James, whose Indian name was Itoahtubbi, was born July 21, 1925, in Bromide, Okla., to Rufus (Cub) James and Vinnie May Seely James, both enrolled Chickasaws. His daughter, Ranell; granddaughter, Dedra; niece, Dede; and friend, Dr. Tina who were at his side, said he was an example of strength and courage to the end.

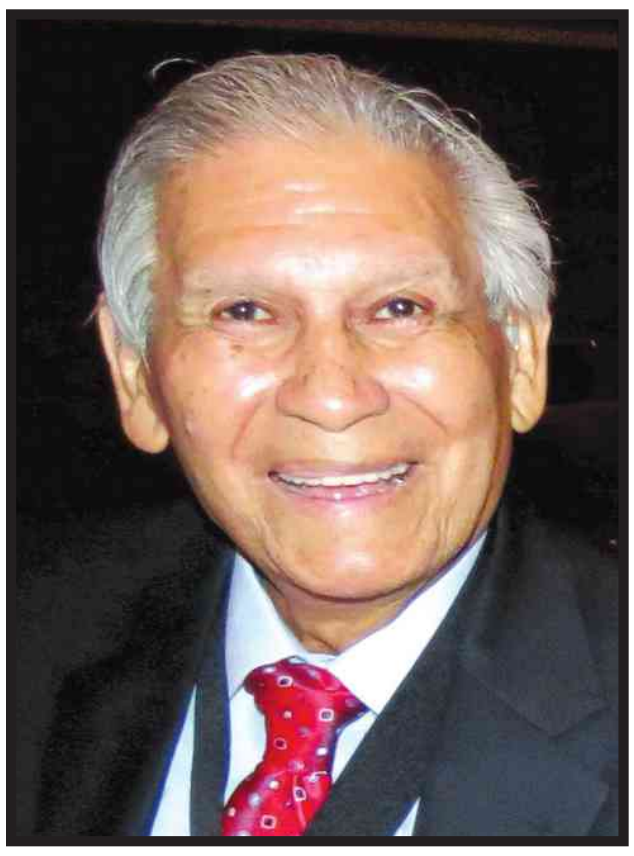
Gov. James was the second of three children. He overcame a disadvantaged childhood to achieve success as a teacher, athlete, sales manager and governor of the Chickasaw Nation. At the beginning of the Great Depression, his mother took the children and moved from Bromide to nearby Wapanucka. His mother worked most days from daybreak to dark, cleaning houses and working odd jobs.

The family lived in a three-room house without electricity or plumbing. They didn't starve, but often didn't have enough to eat. Overton and his brother would sometimes hunt small game with their rifles to put meat on the table.

Nevertheless, Gov. James maintained a good sense of humor about his family's struggles with poverty. During speeches later in life he often joked that his family was "so poor, even the poor people thought we were poor," a remark that never failed to bring laughter from his audience.

After graduating from Wapanucka High School at age 16, the 6-foot-tall, 115-pound Overton James joined the U.S. Navy. His time in the military enabled him to travel to see more of the world and helped him understand the need to develop new skills to advance up the ranks.

Gov. James served in the U.S. Navy "Seabees" in the Southwest Pacific during World War II. He also served in the U.S. Navy Reserve and the U.S. Army Reserve from 1947-1957. Honorably discharged in 1946, he attended Southeastern State College in Durant, Okla., with funding from the G.I. Bill. He was a professional and semi-pro baseball player while attending Southeastern, where he also earned bachelor's and master's of teaching degrees.



Chickasaw Nation Governor Emeritus Overton James

In 1947, he married Evelyn June Richardson, who preceded him in death on May 2, 1996.

A teacher and coach for 10 years, he taught at Ravia, Caddo and Shattuck, Oklahoma. After serving as sales manager for Compton's Encyclopedia for five years, he embarked on his career with the Oklahoma Department of Education in 1965. In 1977, he resigned his position as State Director of Indian Education to become full-time Governor of the Chickasaw Nation.

Governor Bill Anoatubby served as Lt. Governor for Gov. James, and succeeded him as governor when the latter retired in 1987.

"Overton James served the Chickasaw people during a crucial turning point in our history as a nation," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Appointed governor by President Kennedy in 1963, Overton James helped lead the Chickasaw people out from under the control of the federal government into a new era of self-governance."

At the time Gov. James was inaugurated in October 1963, he had no staff, a tiny budget, few tribal assets and a salary of $3,000 a year.

He served as appointed governor until 1971, when he became the first Governor of the Chickasaw Nation elected by the Chickasaw people since Oklahoma statehood in 1907.

SEE **GOV. JAMES,** PAGE 3

Harvest Fest to celebrate 120th anniversary at Chickasaw White House

EMET, Okla. - The 2015 Harvest Fest will celebrate the 120th year of the Chickasaw White House in Emet.

This year's Harvest Fest will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Chickasaw White House in Emet.

Once considered a mansion on the frontier, the Chickasaw White House was home to Gov. Douglas H. Johnston and the Johnston family from 1898-1971. It was the setting for many important political and social gatherings.

Harvest Fest will be celebrated October 24 at the Chickasaw White House in Emet, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

The Chickasaw Nation acquired the home in the 1990s and restored the White House to its original grandeur. The Johnston home was designed by architect W.A. Waltham in 1898. It was Queen Anne style and it is listed on the National Registry of Historic Homes.

The White House features exquisitely hand-stenciled mansion paper on the walls of three rooms, 16-foot ceilings, crystal chandeliers, mahogany fireplaces and many original furnishings. From the table settings and the crystal, to the crepe myrtles planted on the property by Mrs. Bettie Johnston in 1895, guests experience life during the early 20th century.

The free event offers the attendees a chance to step back into the early 1900s with food and activities representing the lives of Chickasaw Nation Governor Douglas H. Johnston and his family.

Festivities include carriage rides around the property, make-and-take crafts, children's activities, bluegrass music and much more.

Tours of the White House will also be available throughout the day. Lunch will be provided.

The Chickasaw White House is located at the north edge of Emet, 10 miles east of Tishomingo, Okla.

For more information about Harvest Fest or the Chickasaw White House, please call (580) 371-9835.

Up-and-coming Chickasaw talent

World beats a path to artist's door

ADA, Okla. – In 2005, Dustin Mater could not have fathomed he would be counted among the premiere Native American artists in the world. Today, his work is in Paris, the Smithsonian Institution, the Chickasaw Nation, adorning Pendleton blankets and in private collections spanning America.

Governor Bill Anoatubby said Mr. Mater was very deserving of his success.

"Dustin is a very talented artist who understands the value of incorporating Chickasaw culture into his work," Gov. Anoatubby said. "He is a great example of artists who are helping revitalize our culture through the use of symbols and designs which have had significance to Chickasaw people for hundreds of years."

His art once was dominated with drawings of "super heroes, monsters and robots."

In California, he struggled to pay bills. He hopped from one freelance job to another. He labored as a bell boy at a large Los Angeles luxury hotel.

Highways were clogged and art commissions were elusive. Jobs to tap his artistic abilities did not seem to exist.

He and wife, Titi, toiled in California in the hotel and restaurant business. Work is how they met, fell in love and eventually married. Mr. Mater also was hustling jobs as a graphic designer.

He shared his artwork with his wife. It was she who first observed reoccurring designs, patterns and swirls resembling Native symbolism. She shared her observations, but Mr. Mater dismissed it.

Looking back, Mr. Mater now knows he was "resisting" art that would launch a national and international career.

"None of this … the Paris sale, the Pendleton blanket design, the Smithsonian, the art commissions … none of it would have happened had I kept resisting where my ancestors and the Creator were wishing to take me," Mr. Mater said. "This is the art that was in my soul and in my heart the whole time."

COME ON OKLAHOMA BORDERLINE

An unusual occurrence reinforced the notion in Mr. Mater it was time to return home.

"I was driving to work one morning and a red fox ran across the freeway," he said. "You never see any wild animals in Los Angeles – ever! That fox crossed eight lanes of traffic and made it safely to the other side at rush hour."

A phone call from Titi beckoned him home from work early. He listened and on the return trip, the fox reappeared. It again successfully navigated eight lanes of traffic safely.

"I knew it was the Creator speaking to me through that creature," Mr. Mater said.

Arriving home, Titi delivered great news – a family was on its way.

Living the life of a starving artist in California is an acceptable gig as long as artist and spouse are fine with it. When Titi made the announcement Sophie Elizabeth Mater would soon be joining them, the lifestyle lost its luster.

It was time to head back to Oklahoma.

DISCOVERING HIMSELF AND HIS TRIBE

Mr. Mater was born in California. It was not long afterward his family returned to Oklahoma. Mr. Mater attended school in Ada, graduating high school in 1997.

It was in Oklahoma, in his formative years, he learned he was Chickasaw. He listened to his grandmother tell stories about his tribe, its heritage and its importance as a sovereign nation. He learned he was merely five generations removed from the Trail of Tears.

"Grandmother Carolyn told me all about the old times," he said. "I heard all these amazing stories, but had no visual context to make stories become applicable to art. But she was planting seeds. I didn't know they were planted. They took root when I was about 19 or 20 years old and first saw Mississippian-era art."

Dustin Mater at the Artesian Arts Festival with a three-tiered gorget he crafted and carved.

Mr. Mater's "7 Days 7 Nights" was auctioned in Paris in June.

Mr. Mater's "Spring" blanket marketed by Pendleton.

Mr. Mater's "John Herrington: 21st Century Bird Man" on display at the Smithsonian Institution.

Chickasaws forged pottery with elaborately etched designs, usually something meaningful or spiritual to the tribe.

Of particular interest to Mr. Mater is the French gorget, a piece of jewelry worn around the neck. Chickasaws acquired gorgets and metal armbands from, ironically, the Spanish and British. Multiple gorgets may be worn by tribal members, usually as a public signal of their "rank" or "status" within the tribal hierarchy.

Mr. Mater painted and carved. He toiled at being an artist when the family arrived back in Oklahoma. He attempted to find work with the Chickasaw Nation. With jobs so scarce, Mr. Mater did what he always has done. He hustled work.

While his grandmother told stories, his mother, Charlotte Elizabeth Milligan Carpenter, took a different tack to introduce her son to his Native American roots. They ventured to a Sundance Lakota powwow when he was a youngster.

"It was amazingly beautiful and impactful," Mr. Mater recalled. "When we were there, my heritage came alive for me and that experience still sticks with me to this very day. Really, for the first time, I saw the world through my Native American filter. Our culture is alive"

WARMING UP TO OPPORTUNITY

Pendleton wool blankets have been a part of Native American culture since the company's founding in 1863. The blankets are the premiere of quality craftsmanship. The company also is savvy about marketing and branding.

Almost from inception, Pendleton produced blankets specifically aimed at Native Americans. The blankets were bold and bright with brilliant colors dyed deep into the scoured wool. Linked with the colors were Native American symbols unique to the southwestern tribes.

Mr. Mater admired the company and its dedication to quality, yet the Chickasaw artist saw immediately Pendleton had no blankets featuring Southeastern tribes' ancient designs and symbols.

He contacted them.

Mr. Mater pitched his "Spring" design featuring symbols of a Southeastern tribe – specifically Chickasaw but symbols accepted by other members of the Five Civilized Tribes. Pendleton loved it. When it was accepted for production, it marked the first time the company featured designs of a Southeastern tribe.

The Creator's ever watchful eye is in the design, as is his hand as he is the craftsman of all things. The revered woodpecker brings good luck and protection.

And, typical of Mr. Mater, he colored outside the lines. Life-giving rain drops pepper the work of art.

Mr. Mater believes the blanket's designs, signifying rebirth and fresh beginnings, are especially appropriate as Mississippian-inspired art is currently enjoying a renaissance. Too, Mr. Mater's creation is quite popular and an impressive financial success for Pendleton since market introduction in 2012.

MONSTERS, ROBOTS AND HEROES

Mr. Mater is a self-described "nerd." Just recently, a Facebook post showed him in an amusing wig, channeling Princess Leia from "Star Wars" with villainous Darth Vader lurking in the background.

"I haven't forgotten the nerd that resides within me," he said. "I still love superheroes, robots and monsters."

It was a real-life Chickasaw "superhero" that inspired one of his greatest works of art. That action figure is of astronaut John Herrington, the first member of a Native American tribe to blast off from Earth and walk in space.

Mr. Mater was in awe of the great Chickasaw. His gorget shell carving of an ancient Chickasaw wearing a modern-day helmet, his arms bearing the feathers of a falcon, was purchased by the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of the Native American. It is a part of the permanent Smithsonian collection and is on display.

"John Herrington is the man!," Mr. Mater exclaimed. "He's a genuine superhero." The work is titled "John Herrington: 21st Century Bird Man."

THE CITY OF LIGHTS AND MORE

In June, a Mater work sold in Paris. He was commissioned to produce the work and sold it to the buyer who in turn hoped to make a profit for charity. It, too, is considered a classic Mr. Mater piece, titled "7 Days and 7 Nights."

SEE **MATER,** PAGE 12

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All editorials and letters will become the property of the Chickasaw Times. Editorials must be signed by the author and include the author's address.

Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Chickasaw history demonstrates ability to adapt, thrive

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, the Chickasaw Nation

It has been six generations since the Chickasaw people were removed from our ancestral Southeastern homelands.

That represents about 180 years of challenge, innovation and, ultimately, triumph.

Throughout the 1600s, 1700s and into the 19th century, the Chickasaw Nation continued to adapt to changes in its environment. There were conflicts with other tribes, European contact and a rapidly changing world that would test us as never before.

By the 1830s, the pressure on the Chickasaw Nation to relinquish its homelands and move west was unstoppable. To the credit of our tribal leaders, the Chickasaws negotiated a better settlement than the other tribes, but removal was a wrenching experience. We had persevered with great strength and dignity, but by 1837 we had to move our people due to an oncoming wave of migration from the East.

We settled for a time with the Choctaws, but Chickasaws were restless for their own lands and the Chickasaw Nation was established to the west of the Choctaw Nation. The Chickasaw Nation established its own constitution and went busily about the effort of making a new home. And the effort had really only started.

By the end of the 19th century, we were to experience allotment of our lands. Some of the allotment proponents were actually altruistic and believed they were doing the right thing for Indian people. But there were plenty of other people who simply looked forward to grabbing land, minerals and other property.

Once allotment had occurred, the Chickasaw people entered a time of great challenge. To most Americans, we were simply irrelevant. And our culture and our history were greatly misunderstood. Our people endured decades of tremendous hardship. Federal Indian policy was impossible to predict, seemingly changing with the whims of a particular office holder or bureaucrat. Things were more often worse than better. Chickasaw families persevered, suffered and survived.

All tribes went through another attempted termination period during the 1950s. It was like the ocean constantly beating against the levee – it seemed it would never end.

However, the decade of the 1960s brought change. The concept of Indian sovereignty began to make its way into the thoughts of American leaders. President Kennedy, in 1963, appointed Overton James Governor of the Chickasaw Nation and we began to find our way forward.

President Nixon read and understood the importance of tribal sovereignty and the wisdom of tribes managing their own affairs, taking care of their own people. Our tribal sovereignty, which had always been our bedrock, was now recognized as the vehicle by which Indian tribes and people could be responsible for their own people and their own success.

Our sovereignty had always been recognized by the U.S. Constitution. But it took America almost 200 years to realize that fact!

The Chickasaw people had endured through times of untold challenge. So many times, the Chickasaw people and the Chickasaw Nation could have simply thrown in the towel, disbanded and melted into obscurity. But we did not disband, and we did not forget the generations before us who had built our tribal foundation.

Throughout the last few decades, we reformed our government and constitution, focused on serving Chickasaw people and doing the right things as a government should. Our patience and solidarity have been rewarded. The Chickasaw Nation is now arguably the strongest and most successful tribe in the country.

It has been a long road, but it has been a road to success. Here's to a new century of progress and prosperity for all Chickasaws!

Connecting with our culture

Chickasaw Explorers engage in homelands archaeological dig

TUPELO, Miss. - Digging in the dirt of the Chickasaw homelands helped five students rediscover their heritage.

In June, Chickasaw Explorers Sydni Jones, of Texas, Hannah Sivak, of Virginia, Jerilyn Willie, of Oklahoma, Cody Pope, of Mississippi, and Jason McNally, of California, participated in a dig. They joined archaeologists and anthropologists from the Universities of South Carolina and Florida and Chickasaw Department of Culture & Humanities' Homeland Affairs staff on an expedition to the Blackland Prairie south of Tupelo.

The group traveled to the Chickasaw homelands to conduct archaeological surveys and test landforms and sites that were suspected to relate to Chickasaw history.

The students learned "shovel testing," a survey technique in which uniform holes are excavated at a systematic interval. The soil is sifted through a screen to catch artifacts and ecofacts that may give clues of previous habitation or activity on the site. Students helped identify pieces of tempered pottery, fired clay, burned food bone and chipped stone arrow points, scrapers and other tools.

"We found a lot of pottery and burnt bone," Ms. Jones said. "The archaeologist on site (Brad Lieb) taught us that bone turns blue when it is burned. It was a special privilege to learn from these experienced archaeologists. We got to experience a new place every day."

On the first day, Joe Thomas, a mentor on the trip and Culture & Humanities special assistant, found a chipped stone hide scraper on exotic chert, a tool known as a "Dalton Scraper"' that archaeologists estimated to be approximately 10,000 years old. Near the end of the expedition, the Explorers began to find evidence of Chickasaw contact with the Spanish entrada of Hernando DeSoto in the form of small tools fashioned from 16th-century Spanish iron.

The artifacts found on the trip were sent to the Universities of South Carolina and Florida to be analyzed and cataloged for permanent curation at the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

Before conducting the archeological field work, students had expressed their desire to become better connected with their Chickasaw history and culture. The homeland affairs staff and the mentors on the trip educated students on pre- and post-European contact, Native American history and culture in the area.

Winter Bass, Joe Thomas, Jerilyn Willie, Cody Pope, Sydni Jones, Hannah Sivak, Jason McNally and Brad Lieb hiking with the Chickasaw Explorers Tuscumbia Landing.

The Chickasaw Explorers visited many important and significant places in the homelands, incluidng Chokkilissa'-Old Town, the 1736 Battle of Ackia (Hikkiya') site, the 1816 Chickasaw Council House site, Cane Creek Canyon rockshelters, the Natchez Trace Parkway, Moundville, Plymouth Bluff, Bear Creek and Tibbee Lake.

To further the understanding of Native American history, the students took a trip to Tuscumbia Landing, near Tuscumbia, Alabama. Tuscumbia Landing is a Trail of Tears site where many Native American tribes suffered the consequence of the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

The students were informed that many Cherokees and Creeks were brought there by train and then loaded on to steamboats in the Tennessee River below and sent to Indian Territory.

"The emotions from the students let me know that they understood the significance of the removal and how difficult it must have been for the Native Americans involved to leave their homes," Mr. Thomas said. "By introducing students to a real archaeological expedition, the disconnect they shared for Chickasaw culture and history was closed."

Students were immersed in the historic homelands as they visited Chickasaw landmarks, examined artifacts sacred to Chickasaw history and culture, and participated in cutting edge archaeological research into the Chickasaw past. Students said the expedition was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

GOV. JAMES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When he retired in 1987, the Nation had approximately 250 employees, expenditures of almost $11 million, nationally recognized stature, and great potential for continued growth.

"As the first elected Governor of the Chickasaw Nation since Oklahoma statehood, he helped blaze the trail for the success we enjoy today," Gov. Anoatubby said. "His leadership was vital to the birth of a political and cultural resurgence which is continuing to transform the Chickasaw Nation.

"While this is a time of sadness for everyone in the Chickasaw Nation as we mourn the loss of a visionary leader and irreplaceable friend, we should also take time to celebrate the great things he accomplished for the Chickasaw people."

Gov. James was the first Chickasaw inducted into the tribe's Hall of Fame. He helped lead the Seeley Chapel movement, a grassroots movement of Chickasaw people who fought to regain the right to once again elect their own leaders and reestablish their status as a sovereign nation.

When he first became governor, the tribe had no other employees and offered no programs or services and the post was primarily an honorary position.

By this time, the federal Indian policy of terminating tribes had been shelved by John F. Kennedy's New Frontier in favor of assisting tribes to better themselves economically. The U.S. Congress agreed and made federal funding available to tribes to develop a variety of programs and services for tribal citizens.

While most of the funding was initially targeted to Indian reservations, Gov. James worked to bring more funding to Chickasaws and other tribes in Oklahoma. As a leader of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, he testified before Congressional committees that non-reservation tribes, like the Chickasaws, had just as many needs. In time, with the help of Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Carl Albert and other members of the Oklahoma delegation, he helped alleviate the funding imbalance.

As governor, he lobbied the Indian Health Service (IHS) and House Speaker Albert for better health care. In 1968, IHS opened a clinic in Tishomingo, Okla., the first health care facility in the Chickasaw Nation. Gov. James was also instrumental in persuading the federal government to establish an Indian Housing Authority in Oklahoma.

After the passage of the Indian Self-Determination Act in 1975, Gov. James was able to obtain enough funding from the federal government to make substantial changes in the economic and social conditions of the Chickasaws.

He was instrumental in the 1972 purchase of what was then known as the Artesian Motor Lodge in Sulphur. Renamed the Chickasaw Motor Inn, it was the first tribal business owned and operated by the tribe. With appropriate renovations and a new business plan, the motor inn quickly became a profit-making venture for the Chickasaw Nation, earning approximately $100,000 for the tribe in its first year of operation.

Gov. Anoatubby said that while revenues varied some through the years, the motor inn proved to be a very good long-term investment.

The Chickasaw Motor Inn also served as tribal headquarters until the official Chickasaw Nation headquarters building in Ada was opened in 1977. When the Chickasaw Nation purchased the Motor Inn there were only 25 tribal employees. Today the Chickasaw Nation employs nearly 14,000 people nationwide.

During Gov. James' tenure as elected governor, the number of tribal employees grew from about 30 to more than 200 and tribal revenues increased from $750,000 in 1975 to approximately $11 million when he retired.

During his administration, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations began work with Cherokee colleagues to pursue legal rights to the Arkansas riverbed - rights which extended to revenues derived from oil and gas development of those lands. That struggle culminated in a U.S. Supreme Court victory in 1970 and - after three more decades of negotiation - a Congressionally approved trust settlement.

The resounding "I bring you greetings from the great unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation" was Gov. James' standard greeting at speeches and gatherings. The quote became a traditional greeting, continued to the present day.

Gov. James combined service to his own tribe with service to all Indian people.

He served five terms as president of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes. He also served as president of the Choctaw-Chickasaw Confederation, chairman of the State Indian Affairs Commission and trustee of the National Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

He was also a member of the Indian Education Subcommittee of the National Council on Indian Opportunity, and a member of the National Congress of American Indians.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, Media Relations.

Tribe, Oklahoma State partner to launch Center for Sovereign Nation

STILLWATER, Okla. - Oklahoma State University launched the Center for Sovereign Nations at the Life Sciences East Lawn in Stillwater on Aug. 21. The kickoff event featured Chickasaw stickball demonstrations and performances by the Choctaw Dance Group.

The center has a three-fold mission of sovereignty, students and partnerships.

The center will promote understanding, respect and exercise of tribal sovereignty while also promoting American Indian student success and graduation. The center hopes to increase the number and quality of partnerships between OSU and the 39 federally-recognized tribal nations in Oklahoma.

Center strategy is guided by partner input. Decisions will be made collaboratively with sovereign tribal nations, OSU faculty, staff and OSU alumni. These partnerships will help students succeed and make connections for the future.

From left, Chickasha Toli Stickball team members Cotie Poe, Kane Worcester, Ric Greenwood and Brandon White gave stickball demonstrations that provided excitement, fun and cultural learning experience for everyone at the Center of Sovereign Nation kick-off event on August 21 in Stillwater, Okla.

The new center will be housed in 104 Life Sciences East on the OSU campus where it will be co-located with OSU's Center for American Indian Studies.

This effort is a result of OSU President Burns Hargis' vision for focused service to sovereign tribal nations in Oklahoma. The center was made possible through the joint investment of the Chickasaw Nation and OSU, with the ongoing invitation for other tribal nations to join as financial partners.

"As a land-grant institution, Oklahoma State University has an important role to play in creating initiatives to increase engagement and educational opportunities with members of all Sovereign Nations," said OSU Provost and Senior Vice President Dr. Gary Sandefur. "We hope this center will not only strengthen relationships between the university and Sovereign Tribal Nations, but will also increase the number of American Indian graduates from OSU."

Hosts and honorees included OSU President V. Burns Hargis, Chickasaw Nation Ambassador At-Large Neal McCaleb, OSU Provost Gary Sandefur, Associate Provost Pamela Fry, Center for Sovereign Nations director Elizabeth Payne, Choctaw Nation Chief Gary Batton, and the Center for American Indian Studies director John Chaney.

Oklahoma State University student and Chickasaw citizen Masheli Billy discusses how the center will help Native American students pursue their dreams.

All Native American students will be served in the new Center for Sovereign Nations. Renovations of the new center are expected to be complete by October 1. For more information please go online at http://sovnationcenter.okstate.edu or email sovnationcenter@okstate.edu.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Nancy McDoniel

New York actress, artist draws on Chickasaw heritage for her inspiration

"I miss the stars."

It's pretty simple for Chickasaw actress and painter Nancy McDoniel.

"I grew up in the country where I could see the stars at night," Ms. McDoniel said. "We'd sit outside in the yard and look at the Milky Way and just dream – at least I did."

She now makes her home in New York.

"I get tired of the constant noise here (New York), the cars, trucks, fire engines, police cars and the constant hum of air conditioners in the summer," she said. "I sometimes think it would be lovely to live in Oklahoma. People in Ada easily greet people on the street, whether they know each other or not. That's refreshing."

Despite her years of training and experience, she takes acting classes and visual art workshops every week. She has played principal roles in theatre productions across the U.S., including the role of Te Ata in the Judy Lee Oliva play Te Ata at Oklahoma City University Theater and at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. She has had feature television roles on Law & Order, Law and Order SVU, Curb Your Enthusiasm and several others. Her film credits include United 93 and The Truth About Lies.

"Acting can be a lonely profession," she said. "Show business people are not one big fraternity. Actors are gypsies. There is no camaraderie, no one place we hang out together. Everyone's too busy looking for work. The cast of a play or a film can become close during a production, but when it's over, you might never see them again."

Some actors with whom she has worked have remained her friends despite the individual culture of acting. She said she met a gifted playwright in New York whom she had known as a young man at Southwestern Missouri State College.

"He was from Ponce de Leon, Missouri, a tiny town in a holler," she said. "He was a good friend, but he passed away a year or so ago."

It's obvious Ms. McDoniel is a talented actress. She has been accepted into the prestigious American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco and the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in New York, meeting the schools' strict acceptance and talent policies. Following training, she was invited into both organizations' regular actors' troupes.

"In San Francisco, I played Nurse Ratchet in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest for a year," she said. "It was the most grueling thing I've ever done. I couldn't do it now."

Her father was in the U.S. Air Force when she was born, so she entered the world in Henderson, Nev., and she lived her young years in several communities. When her parents divorced, she and her mother, Virginia Loree Colbert, moved to McAlester, Okla. A little later they lived with an aunt in Arkansas. Ms. McDoniel was then sent to another family member in Ozark, Missouri, where she grew up.

Her mother's father, Oscar Colbert, was an original Chickasaw enrollee, whose ancestry in the U.S. began with James Logan Colbert, a Scot who lived with the Chickasaws. Ms. McDoniel's line is from one of Mr. Colbert's sons, Gen. James Colbert. Nancy's great-great-grandfather was Brushy Jim Colbert, whose original allotment was not far from present-day Atoka, Okla.

A high school English teacher introduced Ms. McDoniel to drama, which, along with art, she chose to study at nearby Southwestern Missouri State College. She later accepted a drama fellowship to Wayne State University in Detroit. There, she studied alongside a number of aspiring acting students, including John Lithgow, Paul Glazier and Tommy Lee Jones. She acted in Wayne State's summer stock program, performing in six different plays each week.

"It was a challenge, but it was fun," she said. "We performed six shows each week. Rehearsals were in the afternoon, performances at night, classes in the mornings."

Harvard University came to Wayne State looking for actors for its summer program, and Ms. McDoniel was selected. "We followed the same schedule at Harvard," she said. "Rehearse mornings, perform nights, six shows a week, matinee on Sunday. Talk about hard work and concentration!"

Her Harvard experience led her to forsake acting for two years. She taught school in St. Louis. She then worked as a flight attendant for major airlines in San Francisco and New York City, where she found the American Conservatory Theater and Strasberg theater classes. She opted for theater over the airlines.

She met and later married professional photographer Dennis Martin in New York. They still live in the apartment where he lived when they married.

"It's old and needs work, but it's rent-controlled, so I don't think we'll be moving," she said.

Ms. McDoniel met Gov. Bill Anoatubby in 2011 at a New York event. She was invited to take part in the next Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation conference in Ada, then was offered the opportunity to be a theater instructor in the Chickasaw Nation Summer Arts Academy, also in Ada. She has served on the Arts Academy faculty for the past two years.

Chickasaw Nation Youth Arts Academy instructor, Nancy McDoniel.

"The Arts Academy is a great thing," she said. "Those students are so lucky to have a venue to immerse themselves in the arts for a few weeks. And we instructors are fortunate to have the opportunity to relay what we know in our fields to those students."

Today Ms. McDoniel acts, paints portraits, and paints sets and makes "props" for a theater company.

"I'm so happy to have been given the chance to come to Ada and get to know the Chickasaw Nation firsthand," she said. "My Chickasaw heritage has become such an important part of my life."

CONTRIBUTED BY Tom Bailey, Public Affairs.

Multi-Tribal Day Nov. 14 at Cultural Center

SULPHUR, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation will host the Fifth Annual Multi-Tribal Day Celebration from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur Nov. 14.

Visitors will learn about the unique cultures of Oklahoma Native Americans. Dance demonstrations, a regalia presentation, flute playing, storytelling, the Cherokee National Youth Choir, Chipota Chikashshanompoli, Chickasaw/Choctaw Hymns with Dixon Chapel, a stickball exhibition game, craft demonstrations, make-and-take crafts and food samples from different tribes will be featured at the celebration.

The Cultural Center is at 867 Cooper Memorial Drive in Sulphur.

For more information on the Multi-Tribal Day Celebration, call (580) 622-7140.

Holiday ornament workshop upcoming

Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities will host holiday ornament workshops on October 24 and November 7.

Participants will create native style holiday ornaments for the holidays and for the Red Earth Festival of trees.

Workshops will be 10 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the Arts & Humanities building, 201 N. Broadway, Ada, Okla., and the ARTesian Gallery & Studios, 100 W. Muskogee St., Sulphur, Okla.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or artistinfo@chickasaw.net.

Programs & Services Directory available

The 2015 Programs & Services Directory is now available for download at Chickasaw.net/servicedirectory. Hard copies will soon be mailed directly to all Chickasaw citizens. The Programs & Services Directory contains information about all tribal programs and services. Inside the directory are program descriptions, contact information and office locations.

Foster Grandparent program

U.S. Rep. and Chickasaw citizen Tom Cole joins the unveiling with Gov. Bill Anoatubby and CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Wendy Spencer.

Tribe lands $360k grant for Foster Grandparent program

The Chickasaw Nation Child Care Department recently received a $360,000 federal grant to support a foster grandparent program.

"While Foster Grandparents have had a positive impact in our classrooms for decades, this new initiative will extend that impact into our child development centers," Gov. Bill Anoatubby said. "We believe this new program offers a unique opportunity for our seniors to form a mutually beneficial bond with the children they serve. Foster grandparents have the opportunity to become role models, mentors and often lifelong friends with these children."

Foster grandparents will serve with the Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center and Head Start in Ada. Some of their activities will include providing one-on-one attention to children, Chickasaw language and culture discussion, literacy development and math and science tutoring. Each is designed to support school readiness and academic success for Chickasaw youth.

Foster grandparents will also act as mentors offering emotional support and guidance to children, parents and staff. The program involves volunteers age 55 and over who support children and who reside in the Chickasaw Nation 13-county service area.

"For generations, seniors have been making a powerful impact in their communities, and their service is more important now than ever," Corporation for National and Community Service CEO Wendy Spence said. "We congratulate the Chickasaw Nation for their strong application and thank Governor Anoatubby for his dedication to ensuring our young people are prepared for future success in the classroom and throughout their lives."

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency. It has approved more than $1 million to support up to 75 Senior Corps Foster Grandparent programs over the next three years.

The federal investment is projected to generate an additional $120,000 in local support.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Youth enjoy OU Kids' Day

Parker Gore and Mia Gore enjoy the activities on the OU field before the game.

NORMAN, Okla. - On Saturday, Sept. 5, more than 75 Chickasaw students were in attendance as the University of Oklahoma Sooners were victorious over University of Akron Zips, supporting a win of 41-3.

"OU Kids Day offers our Chickasaw Youth the opportunity to meet former OU players and to experience the game day atmosphere," Youth Services lead activities specialist Dalton Lewis said.

The children who attended the game had the opportunity to share their company with Gov. Bill Anoatubby and University of Oklahoma director of football operations Merv Johnson. Gov. Anoatubby joined the children for a barbecue lunch by the Duck Pond, just outside Gaylord Memorial Stadium.

Mr. Johnson spoke with the students about his successful career and answered students' questions.

Before the game, students got to meet the OU mascot, engage in competitive footraces and play on the field at OU's Gaylord Memorial Stadium.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

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Chickasaw film producer climbing motion picture ladder

Working toward a goal often leads to greater opportunities.

For Chickasaw citizen Blake Pickens of Sacramento, Calif., opportunity seems to knock at his door regularly. By continuously looking for new avenues to pursue his passion for filmmaking, Mr. Pickens received a Time Warner Fellowship which led to attending the prestigious Sundance Film Festival.

Growing up in what is called "the flats" in Oklahoma City, Mr. Pickens said he knew from a young age that he wanted a better life. Initially, he thought studying pre-medicine at the University of Oklahoma would be his ticket to a satisfying life. But a family medical emergency involving his father changed the course his life.

Suffering from a brain aneurism, Mr. Pickens' father asked him if he was happy with his choice to study medicine. That simple question forced him to reconsider his path. He realized he did, in fact, want to make a change.

A film studies course at OU that changed his life.

"You don't connect with people in the way you can with movies," Mr. Pickens said. "Movies are still a communal experience. Watching a movie with other people and experiencing that art together is unique. Something about that really inspires me and makes me hungry to do that."

He determined that if he wanted to pursue filmmaking, a move to Los Angeles would be necessary. In that entertainment center, he could meet people in the field who could help him. While searching opportunities in Los Angeles, he happened across Dream Careers, a company that offered a summer internship program. It was through that program Mr. Pickens landed an internship in Los Angeles with the National Lampoon organization – a company most noted for its parody magazine and, later, movies.

Blake Pickens and his producing partner, Stephen Love, of BS Pictures during film of *The Land*.

Through National Lampoon, Mr. Pickens perfected his writing skills that led from his internship to a full-time job as a writer for National Lampoon.

After working at National Lampoon, he traveled back to Oklahoma for a while but never lost the connections he made on the West coast. He applied for the Peter Stark Program at the University of Southern California, a two-year graduate film producing program that only accepts 25 students.

The competition was steep, but Mr. Pickens was selected for the program. While at USC, he met Stephen Love, his producing partner. Together, they would go on to form BS Pictures.

After graduating from the Stark Program in May 2014, Mr. Pickens and Mr. Love began to pitch their thesis project The Land, a movie they created while at the Stark program with the understanding that getting into the Sundance Film Festival would be a big boost to their careers.

While at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah in January, Mr. Pickens was once again making connections for the future, planning to apply for other Sundance programs.

"Getting to express myself and be creative and work with other creative people and tell stories to make people laugh and smile make people feel something… that's what I'm in it for," he said. "I want to change the world. I want to make it a better place and I think the best way to do that is through art."

Mr. Pickens wrapped up filming for his first movie The Land in Cleveland in September. He will attend the Sundance Film Festival for a second time as a part of the Creative Producing Lab in January 2016.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Seeking leads from Chickasaw families

Chickasaw researcher combing history for clues to lives of Chickasaw lawmen

FORT SMITH, Ark. – It has been 119 years since "Hanging Judge" Isaac Parker issued a death sentence from the bench of this historic city on the banks of the Arkansas River.

He was appointed U.S. District Judge for the U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas by President Ulysses S. Grant in 1875. For 21 years he presided over the court and handed down 160 hanging orders – 79 of which were carried out – during a time when lawlessness was rampant in neighboring Indian Territory.

Of particular interest to Chickasaw Nation author and researcher Michelle Cooke is the tumult of Indian Territory, its lawmen, its outlaws and specifically Chickasaw lawmen and Lighthorsemen. To bring the true historical account into focus, Ms. Cooke is seeking assistance.

"We know many Chickasaw lawmen were involved in keeping the peace and dispensing justice in Indian Territory but the historical record is sketchy at best," Ms. Cooke said. "Chickasaws served as police officers, constables, sheriff's deputies and we know these lawmen helped U.S. Marshals who were stationed in Fort Smith patrol Indian Territory."

Ms. Cooke has discovered Chickasaw lawmen were heavily involved in enforcing the law in Indian Territory. Many probably made the dangerous trek through it to deliver prisoners to Parker's court. While she has a few names, Ms. Cooke knows gaps in the historical record can be filled with information about lawmen from the best source possible – the lawmen's families.

"We are reaching out to Chickasaw families and others who may have information concerning a Chickasaw Lighthorse officer or deputy or policeman who served their communities," she said. "We are looking for names, what law enforcement agency they served, where they were located, how long they served and any other important information concerning them."

Michelle Cooke

Information collected by Ms. Cooke will be included in an upcoming book she is penning about Chickasaw lawmen from removal in 1837 until Indian Territory was transferred from the U.S. Western District Court jurisdiction in 1896.

In addition, the Chickasaw Nation seeks information so Chickasaws may be honored at the U.S. Marshals Museum, a 50,000-square-foot national attraction on the Arkansas River in Fort Smith. While still under construction, the museum hopes to educate, inspire and entertain visitors with state-of-the-art exhibits and programming to highlight the history and achievements of the nation's first federal law enforcement agency. The U.S. Marshals Service was created in 1789 by President George Washington.

Lighthorse lawmen from the Five Civilized Tribes made huge contributions to the U.S. Marshals Service. That fact is not lost on those planning the national museum and Native American lawmen will be honored at the facility when it opens.

Chickasaw Nation Secretary of Culture and Humanities Lisa John has been active with the Fort Smith project since its inception. She was recently named to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Marshals Museum along with Cherokee Nation History and Preservation Officer Catherine Foreman-Gray.

"The history of Indian Territory is fascinating," Ms. Cooke said. "Chickasaws contributed to its rich history and we want to accurately tell our story as well as pay tribute to Chickasaws who, quite literally, put their lives on the line each day by wearing a badge and upholding the law.

"One way to judge how critically important lawmen were in Indian Territory is to compare the number of people hanged against the number of lawmen lost in the line of duty. It's true 79 hangings were carried out, however 109 lawmen were slain during the 21 years Judge Parker presided in Fort Smith. That's a very sobering comparison. It is clearly evident Indian Territory was violent and volatile."

In 1896, Parker died in Fort Smith of Bright's Disease, a term used at the time for chronic kidney failure. He was 58 years old.

To help Cooke spotlight Chickasaw lawmen during the period, email her at Michelle.Cooke@chickasaw.net.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Lisa S. Huling, C.P.A
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Division of Health and CNMC offering food programs to help youth

Chukma and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District. September started out hot but has now cooled off some. And of course, it's football time in Oklahoma!

At our committee day, we had speakers from the Division of Health who told us about a new three year program to improve the quality of our children's diets. The program focuses on adding nutrition to the evening meals and snacks of our children with double benefits when they are out of school. Fresh fruits and vegetables will be delivered monthly. Called "Packed Promise," the program is actually designed to test how such a program would impact our children.

MARY JO GREEN

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center is offering healthy box meals for children. The meals are available for children ages 1 - 18 from 10am to 7pm Mon.- Fri. and 11am to 2pm on Saturday and Sunday. The program operates year around with additional meals in the summer. The program is a cooperative effort between the Chickasaw Nation, the State of Oklahoma and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

We welcome several new doctors to the Division of Health: Erin Bigelow and Joel Herschler in the Dental Clinic; Brian Joachims in Family Medicine; Travis Thompson in Optometry; Angela Torres and Lisa Franks in Family Medicine.

Several of us Legislators attended the Oklahoma City Community Council meeting. We were enlightened by Neal McCaleb, Chickasaw Ambassador at Large and former Undersecretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, a gifted and accomplished speaker. Legislator Dean McManus told you last month about the meeting of the National Foundation for Women Legislators which met in Oklahoma City. Legislator Nancy Elliott and the Governor's Executive Assistant Tammy Gray attended. I have attended other meetings of this Foundation and I tell you, it is by far the best conferences I have ever attended.

Chickasaw Festival time is here and we have an entire week of exciting events, not the least of which is the selection of our new Chickasaw Princess, Junior Princess and Little Miss Princess. On October 1, we swear in the newly elected Governor, Lt. Governor, Legislators and Supreme Court Justice. And all is well with our Nation!

Chi ihullo li! I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me by telephone, email or letter. My email address is mary.green@chickasaw.net and my address and telephone number are listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you. Chipisala'cho!

Assistance, education programs available to Chickasaw youth

Chukma and happy Fall! Our tribe is thriving and it is evident from the programs and services we are able to provide to our people. I'd like to focus on some of the programs available to our youth. There are so many – it's difficult to be familiar with all of them.

Abstinence Education

This topic may be difficult for many of us to talk about, but it is a very important subject to discuss with our children. Did you know we have a certified abstinence educator who is available for you and your family to meet with? You can schedule an appointment with the educator for a consultation with your junior high or high school student. You may call the Office of Strong Family Development for more information at (580) 436-1222.

SHANA HAMMOND

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Childcare Assistance Program

The childcare assistance program provides childcare assistance for those living within the Chickasaw Nation service area. It allows parents to choose from childcare providers in their areas including tribal centers, family child care providers and center-based child care centers. You must apply for the assistance and meet requirements as found on the tribal website or as found in your 2015 Programs and Services directory. The application can be found at chickasaw.net/Services/Child-Care-Assistance-Program.aspx.

Farm to School Program

This program pairs local farmers with area schools to bring locally grown fruits and vegetables to children through school meals. Designated schools within the tribal boundaries are working with local farmers to provide quarterly meetings with district food service directors, meetings between local farmers to share needs for the schools as well as providing nutrition education to third and fourth grade students through our "Get Fresh" nutrition adventure series. For more information, you may contact Nutrition Services at (888) 436-7255.

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? ~Micah 6:8

Shana Tate Hammond
Pickens District, Seat 4
shana.hammond@chickasaw.net
(580) 235-1438

Kullihoma, Tuscumbia, Alabama important and sacred to Chickasaws

Hello Everyone,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. In this article, we will finish up the story of Kullihoma and then share an experience from this year's festival at Tuscumbia.

We resume "The Story of Kali Homa" by H.R. Antle at … "Possibly the loot, like the fabled treasures of Captain Kidd, shall rest unfound until the end of time.

KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

The death-knell of the beautiful springs was sounded in 1917. It was in that year an enterprising lumber company constructed a saw mill beside them. A dam was built across the water outlet. Although the mill existed only for a year, the damage was done. Sawdust and silt has united to choke the mouth of the spring.

Today grunting of hogs, as they root in the seepage, are the only sounds to be heard and the only sights to be seen at the spot.

Scrub-oaks, weedy pastures and small patches of corn and cotton, peopled by remnants of a mighty tribe, together with a farming group of whites, occupy the scene of a once beautiful county.

No more does one see marching men, or the exiles of the east, building a Nation in the wilderness. No more do mighty herds of cattle pass by on their way to the north. All that has settled into a dim and distant past." THE END

As special and sacred as Kullihoma is to Chickasaws, there are other equally important places. Tuscumbia, Alabama is another. Tuscumbia is a town, which at the time of removal, was where many Chickasaws were held in stockades, then marched to the Tennessee River to board flatboats for the beginning of their journey to Indian Territory.

Again this year, I had the opportunity to attend Oka Kapassa Festival in Tuscumbia. The festival honors the memories of thousands of Native Americans and the people of the Tuscumbia area who extended kindness and sustenance to them on their forced migration to the west.

Each time I go to Tuscumbia, I return with new knowledge, experiences and memories… This year we participated in a Poarch Creek ceremony to remember the people who had made the two-mile march from the stockades of Tuscumbia to the banks of the Tennessee. Before we began the reenactment of the march, each of us was given a turkey feather to represent the memory of an ancestor who made the march. We carried our feathers to a ridge overlooking the river, where we hung them in trees to blow gently in the wind and evoke memories of our people and our past.

I hope you have a wonderful Indian Summer! If I can be of assistance, just call.

Respectfully,
Katie

Autumn weather and beautiful foliage sweep Chickasaw Nation

Chokma!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District!

Autumn is upon us. The air is crisp, leaves are turning brilliant colors and the temperature is dropping.

In the Chickasaw Nation, we are fortunate to have some of the most beautiful locations in the region and the splendor is enhanced as the fall colors blaze at this time of year.

TIM COLBERT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chickasaw National Recreation Area and the ancient Arbuckle Mountains near Sulphur and Blue River and Pennington Creek in the Tishomingo area all provide breathtaking beauty as the fall foliage appears.

The waters and beauty of the area attracted ancient people to this location. Hundreds of years later, people from all walks of life continue to travel to our area to experience the magnificence of this land. Fortunately, the Chickasaw Nation's tourism initiative has enhanced the experience of this destination.

The Artesian Hotel and Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center provides first-class accommodations in Murray County while the Chickasaw Visitor Center in Sulphur and Welcome Center in Davis are open to provide information about the area, so our guests can make the most of their experience in this area.

Soon, the Chickasaw Information Center will be open in Tishomingo and will serve as an information hub and promote tourism for Johnston County attractions and historic sites; including the Chickasaw Capitol Building, Chickasaw White House, Tishomingo Refuge and Blue River.

I am excited to work with Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby to make these facilities- which were once just long-term goals- into realities.

Enhancing our Chickasaw communities with beautiful facilities benefits our people with enhanced business opportunities, as well as benefits our partnering communities with overall economic development.

Take time this fall to experience the beauty of Chickasaw Country!

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature. It is a privilege and an honor to serve you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Chokma'shki,
Tim Colbert
HYPERLINK "mailto:Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net"Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net
580-421-7242

Tribal net assets climb above $2.1 billion

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Division of Commerce. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of tribal government, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Business revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes and other sales revenues from convenience stores, travel plazas, tobacco stores, other tribal businesses as well as rental and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, the Chickasaw Times and Governor's and Lt. Governor's offices. Expenditures for education include education scholarships as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending August 31, 2015

Tribal Government

Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled $14.03 million for the month and $168.28 million year-to-date. Expenditures were $13.34 million for the month and $126.93 million year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses

Revenue net of gaming prizes through August totaled $1.25 billion. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $ 303,397,831 year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets

At August 31, 2015, the tribal government funds had $304.47 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $22.26 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $249.29 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of August 31, 2015, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of $2.1 billion.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Eleven Months Ended August 31, 2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	15,301,833	1,246,325,273	1,261,627,106
Transfers from businesses to tribal government		152,975,713	(152,975,713)	-
Total funds available		168,277,546	1,093,349,560	1,261,627,106
Expenditures				
General government		6,715,372	-	6,715,372
Legislature		2,713,973	-	2,713,973
Judiciary		1,101,098	-	1,101,098
Education		23,269,903	-	23,269,903
Heritage Preservation		18,995,870	-	18,995,870
Health		19,122,433	-	19,122,433
Youth Services		5,198,116	-	5,198,116
Family Services		10,346,175	-	10,346,175
Nutrition Programs		6,618,074	-	6,618,074
Regulatory		10,059,446	-	10,059,446
Assistance Programs		22,793,549	-	22,793,549
Gaming expense		-	709,706,949	709,706,949
Other businesses' expense		-	233,220,492	233,220,492
Total expenditures		126,934,008	942,927,442	1,069,861,450
Increase in net assets		41,343,537	150,422,118	191,765,656
Beginning net assets		743,003,190	1,187,670,226	1,930,673,416
Ending net assets	$	784,346,727	1,338,092,343	2,122,439,070

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
August 31, 2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	$	304,473,218	249,294,290	553,767,507
Receivables		18,303,692	99,720,370	118,024,062
Inventory		201,842	7,549,442	7,751,285
Prepaid expenses		-	20,542,878	20,542,878
Other Assets		-	1,078,139	1,078,139
Fixed assets		464,472,147	1,068,233,806	1,532,705,952
Less payables		(3,104,171)	(108,326,580)	(111,430,752)
Net Assets	$	784,346,727	1,338,092,343	2,122,439,070

Chickasaws from across the nation gathered for Colbert reunions

BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Whether it was coincidence or by design, two separate Colbert Reunions took place recently! Mr. Chance Wimberley had the idea and others from the Panola District jumped in to help plan the first annual Colbert Reunion of Oklahoma. The gathering was held at the Chickasaw Community Building in Enos, Oklahoma. They did like all good planners, and wrangled help from willing participants- family! For the first ever local gathering of James Logan Colbert descendants, the meeting went well. "Family members" in attendance came from Kentucky, Texas, Oklahoma and Alaska. Participants shared stories, photos and genealogy tidbits as well as food! Attendees sang Choctaw hymns, read the Lord's Prayer in Choctaw and took Colbert family pictures. Chance started a Facebook page entitled: Descendants of James Logan Colbert. At that location you can learn more about the reunion, see the photos, or gather information about your family genealogy. The Reunion for next year will be held at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Bill and Lawanda Duckworth. Bill was the featured guest speaker at this year's Colbert Reunion in Tuscumbia, Ala.

The other Colbert Reunion was located in Tuscumbia, Alabama and was held during the "Return to Cold Water Creek" Festival. This year the featured, guest speaker was one of our own Panola District Citizens, Mr. Bill Duckworth. He shared on the subject of unanswered questions about the history of Chickasaw Nation and its people. His power point lesson was full of information and pictures. Thank you to Bill and his wife, Lawanda, for sharing with the group. They have put many miles and hours in on research and history of our ancestors.

Legislator Katie Case and I always look forward to spending time in Tuscumbia, Alabama. It is enjoyable to watch our Chickasaw Nation Dancers and citizen demonstrators share with the interested school children and adults who attend the event. Once again we were able to participate in the annual symbolic remembrance walk of our ancestors. The walk is a special time to remember those who went before us and to plan on what we ourselves will leave to the next generation.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Psalms 133:1

Beth Alexander
P.O.Box 246 Achille , Ok. 74720
(580) 272-7850

October to be eventful month for Chickasaws and tribal legislature

NANCY ELLIOTT

Secretary Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chokma, chinchokma, Hello, how are you?

October is a very special month to us in tribal government. It is when we take our oaths of office for our new term. October is when our fiscal year begins. In the legislature, we elect new officers. The most important event happening in the month of October is our Annual Meeting and Festival, which is always held on the first Saturday of October. By the time you read this article, the Annual Meeting will have come and gone. I hope that if you did not get to come this year, you will resolve now to come in 2016. There is so much to see and do in the Chickasaw Nation, and October is a great time to visit. In fact, I was reminded this past weekend at a Women Legislators' Conference that we need to take every opportunity to enjoy the treasures in our own backyards. Women legislators from all over the United States gathered in Oklahoma City, and they wanted to know what they should see and do in Oklahoma while they were here. It reminded me of the many wonderful things available in my own Chickasaw Nation that I had not seen, not to mention the many beautiful places we have in our great state of Oklahoma. As I mentioned earlier, October is a great time to get out and enjoy the many wonders of our state and nation. I would like to encourage you to take advantage of the many activities and events available to you and your family, free of charge, here in the Chickasaw Nation. Every year I say this, but it is true and worth repeating, that my favorite place to visit is the Chickasaw White House. On October 24th, you will have the opportunity to see the White House in all its' fall splendor at the Harvest Fest, which will occur from 10:00 am to 3:00pm. I take my grandchildren and always have a great time. There's always music, beautiful fall flowers, wagon rides, good food, and great conversations. There are lots more activities in October, too numerous to include here, so check out the website at www.chickasaw.net. Looking over the calendar reminded me of how soon Thanksgiving and Christmas will be upon us. Let's all resolve to slow down and make memories with our families. We have such a limited amount of time to truly spend with our children, so we need to make every moment count. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative in the legislature. Please let me know if I can help you in anyway.

Chipisala' cho anowa, Until I see you again,

Nancy - Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net
580-399-4374

Stroke is one of the leading causes of death and disability is U.S.

TOBY PERKINS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Chokma,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

I wanted to take this month's article and make somewhat of a Public Service Announcement. Recently my wife had a hemorrhagic stroke. I praise the Lord she is doing well and has made a tremendous recovery and want to thank everyone who was praying for us while she was in the hospital. I didn't realize that stroke is the number five cause of death and number one cause of disability. I am so thankful I was at home and remembered the FAST acronym for recognizing stroke symptoms from a Facebook post someone shared.

F-Face drooping - Ask the person to smile. Is the smile uneven?

A-Arm Weakness - Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

S-Speech Difficulty - Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence. Do they repeat it correctly

T-Time to call 911 - If they show any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 911. Get them to the hospital and log the time when the symptoms first started.

Quick treatment at the hospital is so important especially with the other type of stoke, Ischemic (clots). If diagnosed in time, there are clot-busting drugs and procedures that can be administered that lessen the chance of disability. I am so thankful someone shared this information with me, and I wanted to share it with all of you.

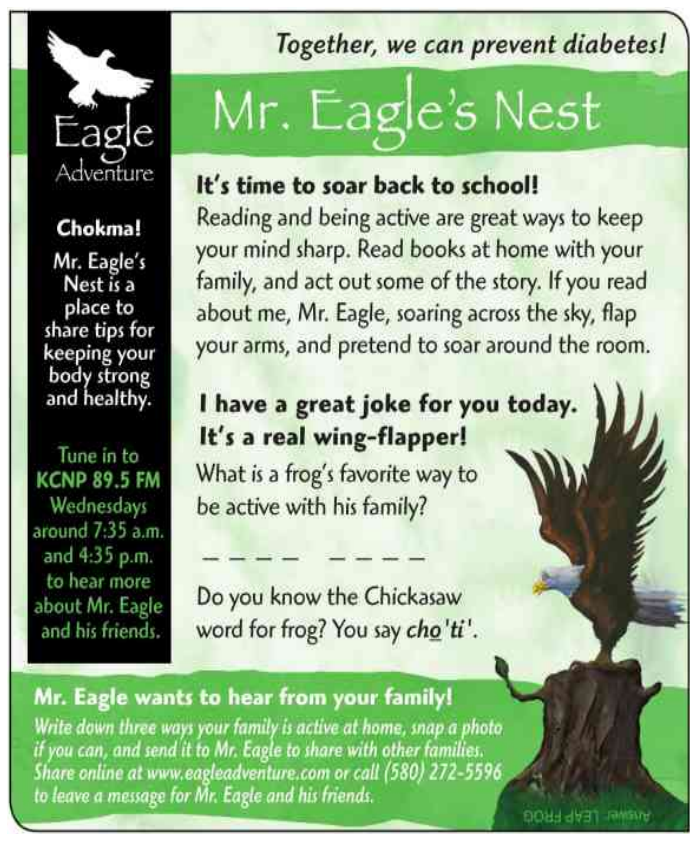
Please view additional information on strokes at HYPERLINK "http://www.strokeassociation.org" www.strokeassociation.org.

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me with your concerns, needs or questions. I am here to help.

May God bless you and your family.

Toby Perkins, Legislator
Pontotoc District, Seat 1
580-399-2606
toby.perkins@chickasaw.net

CHICKASAW TIMES
Chickasaw Times app now available for Apple iOS and Android Devices
Available on the App Store
GET IT ON Google play


Together, we can prevent diabetes!
Eagle Adventure
Mr. Eagle's Nest
Chokma!
Mr. Eagle's Nest is a place to share tips for keeping your body strong and healthy.
Tune in to KCNP 89.5 FM Wednesdays around 7:35 a.m. and 4:35 p.m. to hear more about Mr. Eagle and his friends.
It's time to soar back to school!
Reading and being active are great ways to keep your mind sharp. Read books at home with your family, and act out some of the story. If you read about me, Mr. Eagle, soaring across the sky, flap your arms, and pretend to soar around the room.
I have a great joke for you today. It's a real wing-flapper!
What is a frog's favorite way to be active with his family?
Do you know the Chickasaw word for frog? You say cho'ti'.
Mr. Eagle wants to hear from your family!
Write down three ways your family is active at home, snap a photo if you can, and send it to Mr. Eagle to share with other families. Share online at www.eagleadventure.com or call (580) 272-5596 to leave a message for Mr. Eagle and his friends.

2014-2015 Tribal Legislature

Following is a list of the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislators including their address and phone numbers. If you have any questions or need any information, please contact the legislator in your area.

Pontotoc District
Seat #

1. Toby Perkins
   15810 CR 1569
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 399-2606
   Toby.Perkins@chickasaw.net

2. Nancy Elliott
   620 Ann
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 399-4374
   Nancy.Elliott@chickasaw.net

3. Katie Case
   14368 County Road 3597
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 272-8385
   Katie.Case@chickasaw.net

4. Dean McManus
   5980 CR 3430
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 235-2651
   Dean.McManus@chickasaw.net

5. Mary Jo Green
   2000 E. 14th Place
   Ada, OK 74820
   (580) 310-4563
   Mary.Green@chickasaw.net

Pickens District
Seat #

1. David Woerz
   P.O. Box 669
   Ardmore, OK 73402
   (580) 235-3240
   David.Woerz@chickasaw.net

2. Connie Barker
   509 SW 7th Ave.
   Marietta, OK 73448
   (580) 272-4175
   Connie.Barker@chickasaw.net

3. Linda Briggs
   P.O. Box 241
   Marietta, OK 73448
   (580) 272-7268
   Linda.Briggs@chickasaw.net

4. Shana Tate Hammond
   801 North Mississippi
   Ada, Oklahoma, 74820
   (580) 235-1438
   Shana.Hammond@chickasaw.net

Tishomingo District
Seat #

1. Scott Wood
   204 East Main Street
   Tishomingo, OK 73460
   (580) 221-1430
   Scott.Wood@chickasaw.net

2. Tim Colbert
   P.O. Box 773
   Sulphur, OK 73086
   (580) 421-7242
   Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net

3. Steven Woods
   5071 Gray's Road
   Davis, OK 73030
   (580) 272-7270
   Steve.Woods@chickasaw.net

Panola District
Seat #

1. Beth Alexander
   PO Box 246
   Achille, OK 74720
   (580) 272-7850
   beth.alexander@chickasaw.net
   bethalexander22@hotmail.com

Graduations

Pvt. Cody Len Sellers

Pvt. Cody Len Sellers graduated from National Guard Advanced Infantry training at Ft. Benning, Georgia. He is the son of Len Sellers and Angie Dawkins, of Meeker, Okla., and grandson of Jim and June (Chickasaw) Seelers, of Shawnee, Okla.

He graduated from Meeker (OK) High School in May 2015. There he was awarded Meeker High School Most Outstanding Student for U.S. military history 2014 and 2015.

While in basic training, he made Expert Marksman on the rifle range and was squad leader of his platoon.

He is an avid hunter, ducks mostly, but also deer. Whatever season is open, he is ready.

After graduation from training, he has come home and is now planning for a career.

Dr. Kayla D. Lewis

Dr. Kayla D. Lewis is a 2015 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She graduated with a Ph.D. in Reading in August. She is the daughter of Rick and Kay Johnson, of Ozark, Missouri, and the granddaughter of the late Hazel Houck, of Oklahoma City. Kayla is married to Keith Lewis and together they have two beautiful daughters, Kylie and Kinsey.

Kayla is currently living in Springfield, Missouri. Kayla has a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and a Master of Science degree in Reading, both from Missouri State University. She has worked the past 15 years in public education as both an elementary teacher and a literacy coach, while concurrently teaching part-time at the university level. Kayla now works full-time as an Assistant Professor of Literacy at Missouri State University. Kayla teaches undergraduate courses for preservice teachers and graduate courses for early childhood and elementary teachers. Her research interests include dialogic discussions and scaffolding techniques present during literature discussions.

Kayla received scholarships for all three of her degrees from the Chickasaw Nation and would like to extend her deepest gratitude for their generosity and support. Without the financial aid of the Chickasaw Nation, Kayla would not have been able to complete her doctoral degree. She feels blessed to have been born into a tribe that values education and supports all Chickasaw students.

Mark Allen Blackburn

Mark Allen Blackburn is a 2015 graduate of University of Memphis, Memphis, Tenn. He is the son of Darlene Meyer and John (Gil) Blackburn, of Orlando, Florida. He is grandson of the late Patricia and Delbert Meyer, of Texas, and the great-grandson of the late Priscilla Cravens Kegans, of Texas. He graduated cum laude and obtained a Bachelor of Music Degree with a concentration in Vocal Performance.

His studies included classical music and opera. Mark had roles in 5 operas at University of Memphis and the professional company of Opera Memphis. He was a member of the University Chamber Choir and the University Singers. He participated in numerous ensembles and church choir events while studying. He is a talented tenor.

Mark will pursue his dream of performing musical theatre while working at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL. Mark and his family are grateful for the scholarships made available to him by the Chickasaw Nation.

SING ON, Mark!

James "Clay" Vandament

James "Clay" Vandament is a 2015 graduate of DeVry University. He received a Bachelor of Science in Multimedia Design and Development. He is the son of Jim and Mary Vandament, of Tuttle, Okla., father of Jimmy Vandament, of Crestview, Florida and Austin Vandament, of Marana, Arizona. When not on his job at MBM Food services, he is currently working on building his business in the Web Design and Development field.

Shelly Dianne Barnes is a 2015 graduate of Athens State Universty.

She graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in business management.

She was able to accomplish this with help through the higher education scholarship funds available from the Chickasaw Nation.

Citizens At-Large Help Number

For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

Birthdays

Jean Wietelman

Happy 53rd birthday to Jean Love/Kemp Wietelman, of Guthrie!

She is the daughter of the late Donald Ray Kemp, and granddaughter of Cena Love.

~Her husband, Bill

Anniversaries

Christopher and Sierra Carloy

Chickasaw Christopher Carloy and Sierra Wilson recently celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary. They were married on July 26, 2014, at the Armstrong Browning Library on the Baylor University campus, Waco, Texas. After receiving BA's from the Baylor University Scholars Program, they both pursued advanced degrees. Sierra, daughter of John and Lesley Wilson of Waco, Texas, received her Master of Library Science from University of Illinois Urbana and has begun her career at the University of Chicago Press. Chris received a Master of Arts in Cinema and Media Studies from UCLA and is currently in the Cinema and Media Studies doctoral program at University of Chicago. His expected graduation with his PhD is summer 2016. Chris is son of Chickasaw Janis Black Carloy and Kerry Carloy and grandson of Chickasaw Georgeanna Harlin and Wayne Black all of Carrollton, Texas; great-grandson of the late Chickasaw George Washington Harlin III; and great-great grandson of original Chickasaw enrollee George Washington Harlin Jr. Chris has always been proud of his Chickasaw heritage and a grateful recipient of Chickasaw Higher Education Grants and Scholarships. Sierra contacted Chickasaw artist, Kristen Dorsey, who designed the couple's wedding rings with Chickasaw symbols and traditional materials.

Heather and Timothy Ortega

Happy Anniversary to Timothy and Heather Ortega!

They were married on August 3, 2007.

From Glenda Burris and family

Birth

Kymbri Elizabeth Porter

Kymbri Elizabeth Porter was born on April 25, 2015 to Michaela Porter at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. She weighed 8 lbs., 7 oz. and was 20 inches long.

There to welcome Kymbri were aunts Mallory and Mariah Porter and uncles Connor and Hunter Conklin. Grandparents are Michael and Christina Porter of Ada and Michelle Smith of Anadarko. She is the great-granddaughter of Janie Newby, Konawa, John and Kathy Porter, Ada and Connie Tillery, Ada. Kymbri is the great-great granddaughter of Josie Stout Harjo and the great-great-great granddaughter of original Chickasaw enrollees Jeff Stout and Tena Thomas Stout.

Weddings

William and Amber Singletary

Amber Lorraine Totten (Chickasaw citizen) and William Todd Singletary were married at 6:30 p.m. July 31 at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell, Louisiana. The Rev. Dr. Robert Heustess, senior pastor of Grace Memorial Baptist Church officiated the ceremony. The bride is the daughter of David and Patsy (Harner) Onan of Sarasota, Florida, and Bradford Totten of Bethany, Oklahoma. She received a B.S. degree in microbiology from the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida after transferring from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. She was employed by the Florida Department of Agriculture Plant Industries and Consumer Services in Gainesville, Florida. Grandparents of the bride were the late Lewis and Thelma (Williams) Harner and the late Harold and Helen Louise (Woody) Totten. Maternal great grandparents of the bride were the late Johnnie and Ida (John) Williams (Chickasaw.) Maternal great, great grandparents of the bride were the late William and Lizzie (Cole) Lishtubby (Chickasaw.) The groom is the son of Thomas and Gayle Singletary of West Monroe, Louisiana. Grandparents of the groom are Mrs. Jeanne Singletary of West Monroe, Louisiana, and the late Mr. Cordell Singletary and Mrs. Edna Brown and the late Mr. Malcolm Brown of Summerfield, Louisiana. The groom received both his master's degree and undergraduate degree in computer science from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana. He is employed by the United States Navy as a computer scientist.

The bride was escorted down the aisle by her father, Bradford Totten. The bridal gown was an ivory, strapless, A-line chiffon dress with a dipped neckline. A crystal embedded belt accented the natural waistline. The back of the dress featured covered buttons and fell into a flared chapel length train. The chapel length veil was adorned with crystals and a blusher. The bride carried a bouquet of calla lilies accented with crystals. Matron of honor was Mrs. Ellen Dyck of Ocala, Florida. The bridesmaid was sister of the groom, Mrs. Jan Tooke, of Ruston, Louisiana. The junior bridesmaid was niece of the groom, Miss Emily Tooke of Ruston, Louisiana. Serving as best man was Mr. Jonathan McGowan of Richmond, Virginia. The groomsman was Mr. Richard Brantley of Ruston, Louisiana. Junior groomsman was Mr. Trenton Anderson and the flower girl was Miss Abby Anderson both of Fillmore, Oklahoma. (They are children of Brian and Lisa Anderson and grandchildren of the uncle and aunt of the bride, Michael and Barbara Anderson of Fillmore, Oklahoma.) The ring bearer was nephew of the groom Mr. Andrew Tooke of Ruston, Louisiana.

Soloists were Mr. Michael Mohler and Ms. Andi Peltonen, both of Slidell, Louisiana. The pianist was Mr. Creigh Holder of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mrs. Glenda Zerengue served as wedding coordinator.

After the ceremony, a reception was held in the church's fellowship hall catered by both Copeland 's and Michael's Restaurants of Slidell.

On the eve of the wedding, a rehearsal dinner was hosted by the groom's parents at Palmetto's on the Bayou in Slidell.

After a honeymoon trip to London, Vienna, Salzburg, and Munich, the couple made their home in Slidell, Louisiana.

Weddings

Chris and Stormi Burris

Congratulations to Chris and Stormi (White) Burris!

They were married on May 23, 2015 in Kingston, Okla.

We wish you much happiness in the years to come.

We love y'all.

From Glenda Burris and family.

Thank You

We would like to thank my family and friends and the Chickasaw Nation for the food and prayers for the loss of our daughter Melissa Sampson. Also, we'd like to thank Governor Anoatubby for the beautiful flowers. Again, thank everyone so much and especially to our pastor Raymond Lampkin.

~Loretta Easley

Congratulations

Jimbo Crossley

Congratulations to Jimbo Crossley on winning MVP of the 63rd Annual Indian Fastpitch Tournament.

The tourney was at the Hall of Fame Stadium this year on July 17-19.

His team, Sykos, won the men's championship to be state champions.

Sykos, Men's Championship Team

His daughter, Kobi Crossley, was the third baseman for Chitto Harjo, the women's championship team of the tourney.

Chitto Harjo, Women's Championship Team

Hit Girlz

Congratulations to the Hit Girlz for winning the Pepsi-B 6U World Series Championship at Del City!

Team members of the Hit Girlz include: Jayse Smith, Rhianna Jones, Danni Lang, Aubrey "Piper" Presley, Taylor Cotanny, Taryn Cotanny, McKenzie Manuel, Ollie Miller, Kieranie Williams, and Hailey Alexander.

Farewell from Little Miss Chickasaw - Jazlyn Key

Chukma,

Saholhchifoat Jazlyn Renee Key. It has been an honor to serve the Chickasaw Nation as 2014-2015 Little Miss Chickasaw.

This time last year, I got to share the stage with my sister, Lauren Key who was runner up and I was crowned Little Miss Chickasaw. I got a surprise kiss on the cheek from Governor Anoatubby, which totally caught me off guard, which was pretty funny. After that night, my journey began. I attended numerous events throughout the Chickasaw Nation and the U.S., traveling to Mississippi for a Homelands tour, Washington, D.C. to tour the White House, Albuquerque, N.M., for the Gathering of Nations, Red Earth in Oklahoma City along with other tribal princess pageants and our farewell trip to New York.

Taylor and Maegan this past year have been amazing traveling to different events, staying up late goofing off in our hotel rooms or just taking silly selfies together. Mae Mae - Thank you for holding my hand on the Screaming Eagle ride at Coney Island. I totally freaked thinking I was going to slip out since I am so short!

Taylor, I will remember walking around with you and my mom in the New York City counting the blocks to make sure we found our way back to the hotel and singing to our hearts for our build a bear. I had a blast getting to hang out every week at our classes, events and our trips. We did have some fun bathroom dryer moments. I give you a big hands up when it came to fixing my hair when my mom wasn't around. I will cherish every minute we shared this past year. You two have taught me so much and became more than friends. I gained two sisters this year and I am going to miss both of you very much.

Just remember you can always call your "Little Bit"!

Mary Hartley, thank you for being my rock. You are so easy to talk to and always willing to be silly and goof off with us. Most of all, you were always there to get me through when the crowds were too large and encouraging me to still perform when I was scared.

To my mom, thank you for encouraging me from day one that I could do this, helping with as many of the events as you could. Making sure I looked pretty and will prepared for the events. Mainly, checking to see if I spilled anything on my dress. You never failed, I always did. I am glad you and Chris had my shout wipes on hand for me when traveling anywhere. When I had a rough day you always cheered me up by taking me shopping. Chris and you are my biggest supporters. Always making sure Maegan and I were where we needed to meet Mary on time. Even picking us up in the middle of the night. Chris, thank you for everything you have done for us throughout the year when mom couldn't make it and when Mary needed help.

I want to thank Governor Anoatubby for having the princess program and allowing us to be in the spotlight as well. It has been an amazing year and experience for us. I would like to wish my sister, Lauren Key and the other contestants Good Luck!!!! I hope the future princesses will have an amazing beautiful year.

Jazlyn Key

Chokmashki,

Jazlyn Renee Key

2014-2015 Little Miss Chickasaw

Farewell from Junior Princess - Maegan Carney

Chokma!

Saholhchifoat Maegan Carney and I am the 2014-2015 Chickasaw Junior princess. Throughout my reign, with the little time that we had, I never thought we would have the opportunity to learn as much as we have. We have been taught many lessons about Chickasaw language, culture and Chickasaw history. In just a year, as young women, we have improved our knowledge and it is all thanks to the Chickasaw Nation. I would not be where I am today without the experiences from the princess program. Now, I have the confidence and knowledge to share with other people.

I wish our reign did not have to come to an end. I understand other girls, just like ourselves, need to experience the opportunity to see the places that we have seen, to meet the wonderful people that we have met and the privilege to represent the Chickasaw Nation.

I will miss being the Chickasaw Junior Princess, because it gave me two funny, loving, and spectacular sisters, Little Miss Chickasaw Jazlyn Key, and Chickasaw Princess Taylor Weems. We have been through so much, creating many memories. Most of them funny memories that I will treasure forever. Thank you Jazlyn and Taylor for being my sisters this year, I will miss the both of you so much.

I would like to thank the best coordinator ever, Mary Hartley. We wouldn't be anywhere without you Mary, so thank you for putting up with me. For driving wherever we needed to be and cracking a joke or two with us. You would always make us laugh and sing with you when we jammed out on the radio. You would always tell us that we were silly, and we would say it right back to you because you were joining us in our silly ways. I like how that we have secret names for each other and even created hand signals, which I will not share since it is a secret. I've been with you when I was the Little Miss Chickasaw and I was happy when I was going to be with you again being the Chickasaw Junior Princess. I knew from the beginning that this year would be fun and special when you would be the coordinator. So thank you and I will miss you dearly.

I would like to thank the many people that helped my mom and me to my events and classes or to meet Mary. Carol Snyder, Ted Scribner, Uncle Thedo, Aunt Jo, Mema and Papa, Summer and Chris and Aunt Shesha. Thank you all!

I would also like to thank the wonderful Chickasaw citizens, who welcomed us and supported us at all of the many events. It always brought a smile to my face when they came up to us and congratulated us for representing the Chickasaw Nation. I enjoyed listening to their stories, especially those from our elders.

A story that I always love to hear is the story about "The Two Brothers and the Leaning Pole." I always feel proud of how Chief Chickasha and Chief Chata never gave up on finding their home. Just as we are as Chickasaw people today, we never give up on our culture and we definitely don't give up on one another.

Maegan Carney

I want to quote a really special person from the Chickasaw Nation.

"We are one tribe, one mission, let us thrive." – Governor Bill Anoatubby.

Chukma'shki

Farewell from Chickasaw Princess - Taylor Weems

Chukma!

Chin Chukma, Saholchifoat Taylor Weems, your 2014-2015 Chickasaw Princess. I would like to thank all of the visiting royalty, friends, and family for attending the 2015-2016 Chickasaw Princess Pageant.

Throughout my reign I have experienced many interesting facts about our culture. In cultural class, with my amazing teacher Dixie Brewer, I was taught how to make beaded collars, pucker toed moccasins and finger woven belts. I was blessed with the experience of learning our language with our language specialist Brandon White Eagle. I have a greater understanding of our traditions. Now, because of these wonderful events I have experienced, I realize how blessed I am to be a citizen of this Great Nation.

Among the many events I have experienced, my favorite trip was the Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, N.M. During this trip, my breath was taken away by watching all the beautiful dancers. They were so graceful and I couldn't take my eyes off them! My favorite part of the dance was when all the royalty danced together. That memory will stay with me for the rest of my life. Few get to experience event I have participated in, so I will pass all of these wonderful experiences onto the next generation. In addition, I was astonished with all the tribes that were represented at this event. We all have a connection and it is great when we can come together and bond again.

I would have to say that our trip to our Nation's capital in Washington, D.C. had the most impact. The Princesses and I were invited to the 124th Continental Congress for the National Society to the Daughters of the American Revolution. The moment that seems to stand still in my mind is when we came to the entrance and introduction of the President of the United States.

Our farewell trip to New York City was fabulous and filled with fun filled events! There were so many neat things to do! We toured Radio City Music Hall and met a real "Rockette." We also got to visit Coney Island. While at Coney Island, I tried to get my mom to ride Thunderbolt, but she said if she did they could probably hear her scream in Oklahoma.

None of this would have been possible if it weren't for the following people: Thank you, Governor Bill Anoatubby and Lieutenant Governor Keel for the opportunity to represent the tribe as its ambassador for the 2014-2015 year. Miss Mary Hartley, you have a way of teaching us what it means to be a beautiful representative for the Chickasaw Nation. That is not all; your graceful ways have shown us how to be "ladies". I have been blessed to spend this experience with such a poised woman. I consider it an honor.

Mom and dad, thank you for making sure I made it to and from our pick up locations, whether it was three in the afternoon, or five in the morning. Thank you for supporting me, encouraging me, and loving me always. You showed me much love, especially when I was cranky because I was tired! That is how I know they love me!

The people who taught me about my culture also deserve to be recognized.

Taylor Weems

Dixie Brewer, I want to thank you for your time and dedication, in teaching me so many new skills that I will continue to use throughout my life.

Your 2014-2015 Chickasaw Princess,

Taylor Weems

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE

Achille Area Chickasaws
Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE

Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON

Chickasaws of Texoma
Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE

Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Thursday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Vicki Monks, 405-524-4506
Chickasawvic@gmail.com

PURCELL

Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Carolee Maxwell, 405-527-7676

ARIZONA

Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA

Southern California Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224
wchandler@socal.rr.com

Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO

Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Bi-Monthly
Beverly Rodgers
(303) 719-3527

KANSAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, 316-945-9219

LOUISIANA

Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI

St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW ENGLAND

New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rita Yepa, 505-350-8372

OREGON/WASHINGTON

Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS

Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Jay Hurst, 512-784-5281
centraltexaschickasaws@gmail.com

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Ellen Brooker
ebrooker@swisd.net

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Saturday, Bedford, Texas
John Atkins
972-271-0692

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244

Let's play ball!

Governor Bill Anoatubby and football captains for East Central University and Southern Nazarene University look skyward as Gov. Anoatubby tosses a coin to begin the Sept. 19 contest at Koi Ishto Statium on the East Central campus in Ada. East Central honored the tribe with Chickasaw Appreciation Day, broke ground on a new plaza to be constructed near the stadium and will dedicate a bench on campus to honor the tribe and its citizens.

Tribe, East Central University break ground on Chickasaw Plaza

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby and East Central University (ECU) officials broke ground Saturday, Sept. 19 on Chickasaw Plaza, a new addition to Koi Ishto Stadium. The groundbreaking kicked off the Sixth Annual ECU Chickasaw Appreciation Day.

Chickasaw Plaza will feature amenities including an entry gate located northwest of the stadium. It will feature larger concession facilities and additional restroom areas. The impressive stadium – home to the ECU Tigers and Ada High School Cougars – was named Koi Ishto Stadium last year. The words mean "big cat" in the Chickasaw language.

The new gate will serve as the primary entrance into the stadium and will include a ticket booth and storefront ECU sports souvenir shop. Also included in the project will be resurfacing of the parking lot, along with a new layout featuring reserved parking.

In addition to Chickasaw Plaza, ECU officials presented Gov. Anoatubby with an artist rendering of a bench honoring the Chickasaw Nation to be placed on campus. The university said the bench will honor the Nation's "generous overall support" both to the university and the athletic program.

Gov. Anoatubby, a 1972 East Central University graduate, addressed the 100-year partnership between ECU and the Chickasaw Nation.

"The land on which ECU sits was donated, in 1907, by the Hays family, who were Chickasaw," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Over the years, this university has had a tremendous impact on the lives of countless young Chickasaws."

Following the groundbreaking, Gov. Anoatubby joined ECU President John Hargrave in the ceremonial coin toss with the captains of ECU and Southern Nazarene University football teams.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw elder begins 100th decade

Chickasaw elder Mildred Jackson Price turned 90 on August 18, 2015. She was honored by both family and friends with a celebration in Oklahoma City. Her daughters, sisters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren; nieces, nephews, her Sunday school class, and many dear lifelong friends were in attendance. She is the proud great-granddaughter of Lo-wau-stubby and Si-ney and London and Becky Ned. She is the granddaughter of Okla-haunch-tubby(John Smith) and Ticy. She is the daughter of Lindsey Smith Jackson and George W. Jackson.

Mildred was born in a cabin in the country near Russett, Oklahoma on August 18, 1925. She is the fifth eldest of 12 children. Coming from a large family, during the Depression Era, she was raised to be practical and resourceful. She remembers her momma and daddy always making do and making the best of what they had. The "art" of recycling was a necessity and it helped develop Mildred into the practical and resourceful person she is today. She remembers her momma making delicious country and Chickasaw meals from the little resources they had. Despite the hard times, Mildred has so many fond memories of the fun, mischief, and escapades she had with her siblings.

In 1931, at age six, Mildred was sent to Carter Seminary in Ardmore, Okla. She remained at Carter, only going home for Christmas and summer vacation, until graduating from the ninth grade. While at Carter, she found the matrons to be strict and seemingly uncaring. She found the teachers to be excellent educators and helped the students to excel academically. Mildred appreciates the education she received while at Carter. Most of all, it gave her an extended family in the friends she made while living at Carter. Mildred attended Tishomingo High School for two years and completed her high school education at Chilocco, graduating with the class of 1943. While in high school, she attended a revival at the First Baptist Church in Tishomingo where she was saved, baptized, and dedicated her life to Christ. Mildred currently attends Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma city.

After graduation, during WWII, Mildred moved to the "big city" of Oklahoma City. She shared an apartment with her older sister Lela Jackson Paschal and other roommates. She worked at Tinker AFB as a clerk typist while attending Hills Business College at night. Mildred remembers then Governor Maytubby pulling her aside and telling her she can do anything anyone else can do, but she can do it better because she was Chickasaw. She and her sister would travel back home by train to Ardmore and catch a ride for 25 cents on the back of a mail truck to Tishomingo. It was in Oklahoma City, where Mildred met the love of her life Richard Price, who was stationed at the naval base in Norman. Together they raised three daughters, Donna Price Norton, Terri Price Ashworth, and Randi Price Almo. Due to Richard's promotions, with the U.S.Postal Service, they lived in various cities including Oklahoma City, Moore, Del City, Cushing, Wewoka, Alva, Omaha, Neb., and Shawnee where he retired as Postmaster. They both dedicated their lives to serving God and anyone in need. They were married for 60 happy years until Richard's passing in 2007.

Mildred was very instrumental in starting the Carter Alumni Association and was president for the first four years. She had a lot of fun seeing her former classmates, laughing, and talking about their experiences at Carter. One of her best friends and classmates, Catherine Wisdom Pendergraft, began kindergarten with Mildred and they have remained friends for 84 years!

Mildred Jackson Price

She is VERY PROUD of her Chickasaw heritage and has taught her family to be proud of their heritage, also.

CHIKASHA POYA!

Mildred is the matriarch of a large family including three daughters and their spouses, 11 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and three great-great children. She has lived her life being of service to others. She is a very loving, nurturing, giving, and caring person. Mildred has lived her life being a wonderful example of how we are asked to live as Christians. We are all so very PROUD to call her MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER, SISTER, AND FRIEND!

INAUGURATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"If you look at the control factor, the federal government controlled more of what we did than we did ourselves. What I mean by that is when you receive money from someone they tell you what you can use it for, what your objectives are going to be and so on. It was just a transfer to the tribe of dollars and not authority."

With passage of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act that relationship began to change. Under the Act, tribes could contract for programs and services from the federal government, which enabled tribes to tailor programs to meet the needs of their citizens.

Tribes were also eligible for capacity building grants under the Act, which enabled the Chickasaw Nation to begin building its tribal infrastructure.

Today, the Chickasaw Nation has an annual economic impact of more than $2.4 billion in Oklahoma. The tribe operates more than 100 businesses and has nearly 14,000 employees. These businesses include a bank, manufacturing, fine chocolate factory, health care clinics, pharmacies, casinos, horse racing tracks, hotels, convenience stores, radio stations, information technology, administrative support services and cultural center.

While the tribe has a firm financial foundation today, when Gov. Anoatubby was first elected, the tribe faced difficult financial circumstances.

In 1986, then Governor Overton James informed the tribal legislature that the tribe was in danger of depleting tribal trust funds. Those trust funds were used for tribal government operations, including the salary of elected officials, travel and other government expenses.

There was less than $500,000 in the tribe's trust fund account. While trust properties were earning about $125,000 annually from oil and gas leases, timber leases and other sources, they were spending about $250,000 each year on tribal government operations.

Entering his first term, Gov. Anoatubby knew he faced a significant challenge.

"We had several businesses that weren't making it, so we had to find a way to make them work," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Economic development was a plank in my platform. Health care, education, senior services and other things we still do today were also part of the platform. It was a matter of sink or swim.

"In order for the tribal government to stay afloat, we needed to create some sources of revenue – and shore up the ones we had. We had some great folks working here who were just as determined to succeed, so we just went to work. Some things didn't work, but the ones that did were enough to pull us above water."

Neal McCaleb, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Interior for Indian Affairs, explains the difficulties facing tribes across the country at the time..

"I've been able to witness tribal government and tribal enterprise since the late sixties and early seventies, because I was on the Indian Affairs Commission and it was pretty grim, Mr. McCaleb said. "We didn't have any resources of our own. We were wholly dependent on the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service, which were dramatically underfunded then as they are now. And along came Bill Anoatubby, who had a vision of economic self-sufficiency.

"He's got a vision, and he's focused on getting it done, which doesn't mean that everything he has tried has worked 100 percent, but most of it has. He was in charge during those years when the tribe began to organize and implement successful businesses and plow the profits of those businesses back into tribal services for the people, like health care."

As the Chickasaw Nation was beginning to establish a firm financial foundation, the tribe faced another significant challenge when the State of Oklahoma challenged tribal sovereignty.

Mr. McCaleb praised the leadership abilities Gov. Anoatubby demonstrated in dealing with the issue.

"I think part of good leadership is courage and he had the courage to stand up to state government on issues of taxation especially on fuel taxes," Mr. McCaleb said. "I understand that they came after him personally and they put a lien on his house, and he took them all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States and prevailed on this fuel tax issue.

"As a result, we have a very attractive compact as do the other tribes that are participating."

Mr. McCaleb was the Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation when the court ruled on the case. He said the decision could have had a very negative impact on the state were it not for the sound judgment of Gov. Anoatubby.

"The department I was running, the transportation department, depended entirely on fuel taxes, and if he hadn't been willing to negotiate a fair settlement that would pass the legislature, it would have bankrupted our program in the state.

"He could have taken a hard line, but he didn't. He took a very statesmanlike position. He is interested not just exclusively in the greater good of Chickasaws, but the greater good of Oklahoma, and that is why he has so much respect from the business leaders in Oklahoma."

Gov. Anoatubby has long operated under the philosophy that "a rising tide lifts all boats." U.S. Representative Tom Cole, who represents Oklahoma's Fourth Congressional District, illustrated how the Chickasaw Nation puts that philosophy into action in remarks published in *the Congressional Record*.

"I have witnessed the Governor achieve amazing things for our tribe, for the State of Oklahoma, and for tribes across the country. The Governor has presided over the Renaissance of the Chickasaw Nation by focusing on increasing economic development, expanding health coverage, improving education, and preserving and reviving the tribe's cultural and historical heritage so important for our future vitality and self-identity."

Rep. Cole added "Governor Anoatubby profoundly understands that neither the Chickasaw Nation nor the State of Oklahoma can thrive independently of one another. He has demonstrated time and time again that working together, the two can bring remarkable benefits to all Oklahomans, native and non-native alike."

An economic impact study conducted by Oklahoma City University revealed that the Chickasaw Nation has an economic impact of more than $2.4 billion annually in Oklahoma. The study also demonstrated the tribe is responsible for creating thousands of jobs in the state.

"We are proud to play a role in helping other Oklahoma businesses grow and succeed," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We believe that what is good for the Chickasaw Nation is good for Oklahoma and what is good for Oklahoma is good for the Chickasaw Nation."

Successful economic development efforts have enabled the Chickasaw Nation to offer more than 280 programs and services, including education, health care, housing, aging and family services to name a few.

Health care has always been a high priority for the Chickasaw Nation. Under the leadership of Gov. Anoatubby, the Chickasaw Nation assumed responsibility for its own health care in 1994. That decision was a giant step forward in their self-governance efforts.

As the tribe began operating its health care services and making administrative decisions at the local level, it was better able to understand the needs of its clients, which led to the expansion of services. In 2004, the tribe opened a Diabetes Care Center with a full spectrum of services, from vision care to pediatrics and nutrition to exercise consultation

In 2010, the tribe became the first tribe to complete construction of a new hospital under the IHS Joint Venture program. The Chickasaw Nation invested more than $150 million in construction of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada.

Under the program, the IHS provides millions of dollars in additional funding annually for staffing and operation of a facility built with tribal funds.

Mr. McCaleb noted that the Chickasaw Nation has "the finest hospital and clinic system in rural Oklahoma today."

Education is also a high priority. In the past four years a total of $64 million in educational assistance has been awarded. This year alone, Chickasaw Nation higher education and career technology programs have provided more than $18 million to more than 4,700 students.

"We are all enjoying the benefits of the scholarships for our kids and grandkids," Mr. McCaleb said. "I have 13 grandkids, so I've been a personal beneficiary of those scholarships. And so has everybody else."

Governor Anoatubby has continued to be a leader in defending and protecting tribal sovereignty. Recently, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations finalized a $186 million settlement with the federal government in a lawsuit regarding the management of trust assets.

At issue was an accounting of management and disposition of more than a million acres of Chickasaw and Choctaw tribal lands that the U.S. government took control of on the eve of Oklahoma statehood. The U.S., as federal trustee, held those lands in trust for the benefit of the Nations.

The settlement will be divided between the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations based on longstanding treaty agreements. According to those treaties, the Choctaw Nation will receive $139.5 million, and the Chickasaw Nation will receive $46.5 million.

"We are gratified by the federal trustee's willingness to face and take steps toward resolving our serious concern," Gov. Anoatubby said. "The settlement we have reached reflects our mutual desire to move past litigation and toward a more productive relationship.

"We believe this is in the best interest of the Chickasaw and Choctaw people and applaud Chief Gary Batton, former Chief Greg Pyle and commend the excellent work conducted by our legal team under the outstanding leadership of Judge Mike Burrage and Bob Rabon."

Gov. Anoatubby said the Chickasaw Nation's portion of the funds would be invested and earnings used to fund future programs and services to serve the Chickasaw people.

"This settlement will be utilized to further our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people," he said. "We will carefully consider how to invest these funds so that we can improve the lives of all Chickasaws."

Major accomplishments

Below are a few of the significant accomplishments attributed to the leadership of Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby.

- In 1987, Bill Anoatubby was elected to his first term as governor. He was re-elected in 1991, 1995, 1999 and 2003. In 2007, 2011, and 2015 he was unopposed for re-election.
- In 1994, the Chickasaw Nation became the first tribe in Oklahoma to compact with the Indian Health Service to assume responsibility for administration of its own tribal health services. This gives the tribe the opportunity to better tailor services to the needs of its patients.
- In 1997, the Chickasaw Nation assumed responsibility for administration of its own of housing services. This enabled the tribe to develop more effective services to better meet the needs of its citizens.
- In 2002, the Chickasaw Nation purchased Bank2 in Oklahoma City. Bank2 has grown from $7.5 million in assets in January 2002, to more than $100 million today.
- In 2003, the Chickasaw Nation opened WinStar Casino in Thackerville. Since that time, it has been expanded numerous times and is now the largest casino in the world. It employs more than 3,500 local residents.
- In 2004, the Chickasaw Nation opened the Family Life Center (Wellness Center) in Ada. Opening of the wellness center marked a major milestone in the tribe's efforts to promote healthy lifestyles and preventive health care services.
- In 2004, the Chickasaw Nation established the Lighthorse Police Department. Since that time, the LPD has signed cross deputation agreements with dozens of state and local law enforcement agencies, helping it become a significant force in delivering more efficient law enforcement services across the Chickasaw Nation.
- In 2006, the Chickasaw Nation opened Riverwind Casino near Norman, Oklahoma. Riverwind has become a leader in presenting major entertainment events in the Oklahoma City area.
- In 2007, the Chickasaw Nation opened the Pharmacy Refill Center, which serves Chickasaw citizens across the United States. The center fills more than 500,000 prescriptions annually.
- In 2008, the Chickasaw Nation opened the first tribal sick child care center in Oklahoma. Located in Ada, the center is one of only two such facilities in the state.
- In 2009, the Chickasaw Nation opened the Ada Child Development Center. This unique center incorporates a "fun town" theme, which stimulates imagination and provides a positive learning environment.
- In 2009, KCNP Community Radio began broadcasting. The station offers an eclectic mix of music, news and information for communities throughout the Chickasaw Nation.
- In 2010, the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center opened in Ada. The medical center is the hub of the tribal health system, which served more than 526,000 patient visits and filled almost 1.4 million prescriptions this year alone.
- In 2010, the Chickasaw Cultural Center opened. To date, the center has welcomed more than 400,000 visitors from around the world. This year alone, more than 100,000 guests visited the cultural center.
- 2012 – Senior centers opened in Panola, Connerville and Ardmore. The Chickasaw Nation now has 12 senior centers in communities across the Chickasaw Nation. These centers served 227,000 breakfasts, lunches and homebound meals last year alone.
- In 2013, the Chickasaw Nation opened the Artesian Hotel, Chickasaw Visitor Center, Artesian Gallery and Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center. These businesses are part of a tourism initiative designed to promote tourism in Chickasaw Country and throughout the state of Oklahoma.
- In 2014, the Chickasaw Nation opened Exhibit C Art gallery and Tourism information center in Oklahoma City
- 2015, the Chickasaw Nation signed a compact with the state of Oklahoma to issue license plates for vehicles registered to Chickasaw citizens in Oklahoma. More than 8,900 license plates have been issued to date.
- In 2015, the Chickasaw Nation purchased First Med Urgent Care. This opening marked a significant milestone in the development of Sovereign Medical Solutions, which now owns and operates eight health care clinics.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, Media Relations.

CNI Global Solutions is Looking for Qualified IT Professionals

2015-1324 : Information Security Forensic Engineer
Bachelor's Degree with 5 years of experience required
Security certification preferred
Located in Rockville, MD

2015-2328 : Tier I Specialist
Associate's Degree or Two years of related experience
A+ Certification Required
Located at Tinker AFB, OK

CNI offers a full benefit package to include Health, Dental, Vision, 401k, and paid time off.

Apply online to be considered at: www.chickasaw.com/careers
Equal Opportunity Employer

New royalty crowned

Governor Bill Anoatubby, far left, and Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel, far right, crowned three princesses during the annual Princess Pageant Sept. 28 in Ada. These young ladies will serve as goodwill ambassadors for the tribe for 2015-16. Chickasaw Royalty are, from left, Little Miss Chickasaw Lauren Key, of Sulphur; Chickasaw Jr. Princess Lauren John, of Ada; and Chickasaw Princess Raechell Meely, of Sulphur.

MATER|

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

A shell carving with many sacred Chickasaw symbols, the hand and eye of the Creator is the focal point "7 Days and 7 Nights." With the art went something money cannot buy - international acclaim and notoriety for the Ada resident.

Other first-place showings – such as Mr. Mater's three-tiered gorget carving with pearls – catapulted him as one of the "must-see" artists at the second annual Artesian Arts Festival during May in Sulphur. Mr. Mater is a frequent finisher in the world-recognized Red Earth Festival. He is preparing works to show in Santa Fe, N.M. The show, Southwestern Association of Indian Arts (SWAIA), is a juried show exclusive for the finest Native American artists in the nation.

Mr. Mater works for the Chickasaw Nation as a graphic artist. Hawk Illetewahke Abdurhman Mater joined the family not long ago. Illetewahke is the name of Mr. Mater's ancestors from the Chickasaw homeland. Abdurhman the name of his wife's father.

Not resting on his laurels, Mr. Mater is negotiating with art buyers in Rotterdam and Amsterdam, in the Netherlands. He has been approached by potential customers in Asia.

The world is beating a path to Dustin Mater's door.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

WARRIOR|

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that will be available from the Chickasaw Nation in the future. It is an honor for the Chickasaw Nation to construct this lodge for Chickasaw veterans and active duty personnel," Governor Anoatubby added.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Chickasaws, Choctaws agree to terms with U.S. regarding timberland trust claims

Tribes settle timber trust suit with U.S. government

After nearly a decade of litigation, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations have reached a $186 million settlement with the federal government in a lawsuit alleging the government failed to meet its trust responsibilities to the two nations.

U.S. District Judge Lee R. West signed the order approving the settlement Friday, Sept. 25 in the U.S. District Courthouse in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

At issue was an accounting of management and disposition of more than a million acres of Chickasaw and Choctaw tribal lands that the U.S. government took control of on the eve of Oklahoma statehood. The U.S., as federal trustee, held those lands in trust for the benefit of the Nations.

The settlement will be divided between the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations based on longstanding treaty agreements. According to those treaties, the Choctaw Nation will receive $139.5 million, while the Chickasaw Nation will receive $46.5 million.

Governor Bill Anoatubby said he was pleased the government acknowledged the serious nature of the matter.

"We are gratified by the federal trustee's willingness to face and take steps toward resolving our serious concern," Gov. Anoatubby said. "The settlement we have reached reflects our mutual desire to move past litigation and toward a more productive relationship. We believe this is in the best interest of the Chickasaw and Choctaw people and applaud Chief Gary Batton, former Chief Greg Pyle and commend the excellent work conducted by our legal team under the outstanding leadership of Judge Mike Burrage and Bob Rabon."

Choctaw Nation Chief Gary Batton said he was excited about the settlement.

"I'm very excited that the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, Gov. Bill Anoatubby, along with myself, and the U.S. government have agreed to a settlement of the timber trust account case," Chief Batton said.

Gov. Anoatubby said the Chickasaw Nation's portion of the funds would be invested and earnings used to fund future programs and services to serve the Chickasaw people.

"This settlement will be utilized to further our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We will carefully consider how to invest these funds so that we can improve the lives of all Chickasaws."

Historical roots of the case date back to the allotment policies of the late nineteenth century, which were implemented with the intention of assimilating tribal citizens and dissolving the governments of the tribal nations.

Under that policy, the Dawes Commission was created to divide land owned by the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations (and other tribes not subject to the 1887 General allotment Act) into parcels and allot those various parcels to individual citizens of the Nations.

Tribal lands the U.S. held as trustee were "surplus" lands not allotted to individual citizens of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations under the terms of the Atoka Agreement. Under that agreement, virtually all of the approximately 11 million acres owned by the two tribes were to be allotted to individual citizens. Nevertheless, more than three million acres of "surplus" land remained after allotment.

The focus of this case was approximately 1.3 million acres of valuable timberland included in the "surplus" lands.

While the U.S. government was obligated to provide an accounting of the management and disposition of these lands, the two nations claimed they never received a meaningful accounting.

In December 2005 the tribes filed suit in U.S. District Court seeking a long overdue accounting of the federal trustee's management of those resources and an equitable restoration of the value of that trust.

In 2013, Judge West ordered mediation and appointed as Special Master Judge Robertson, the same judge who presided over the *Cobell v. Salazar* suit, a landmark case on Native American trust management issues.

While no settlement agreement had been reached by the December 15, 2014 deadline, that deadline was extended. The provisional settlement agreement was announced July 2, just 12 days prior to the July 14 trial date.

At that time, Judge West signed an order allowing 90 days for the parties to approve the agreement.

The Joint Stipulation of Settlement was filed with Judge West Friday, Sept. 25.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tony Choate, Media Relations.

Chickasaw Korean War veteran receives Ambassador for Peace Award from Republic of South Korea

Louis Parker (seated), 84, of Chico, was honored May 15 with the Ambassador for Peace Award of the Republic of South Korea.

He received the honor at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Anderson and was congratulated by Congressman Doug LaMalfa, and other dignitaries. Mr. Parker was a member of the 7th Infantry Division and was wounded in 1950 in Inchon, Korea.

He also served at the Manchurian border in North Korea, and in occupation duty in 1948 in Korea. He was chosen for Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Honor Guard in Tokyo. After the war, he worked as a police officer and a private investigator for 57 years. He and his wife, the late Dorothy Parker, moved to Chico in 1966 and raised their family there.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole · September 14, 2015
Present: Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Connie Barker, Beth Alexander, Katie Case, Shana Hammond, Scott Wood, Linda Briggs, Mary Jo Green
Absent: Nancy Elliott, Dean McManus, Steve Woods

Finance Committee · September 14, 2015
Present: Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Linda Briggs, Connie Barker
Absent: Nancy Elliott, Steve Woods

Human Resources Committee · September 8, 2015
Present: Katie Case, Connie Barker, Mary Jo Green, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins

Legislative Committee · September 8, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Connie Barker, Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, Katie Case, Mary Jo Green, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus
Absent: David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods

Legislative Committee · September 14, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Connie Barker, Tim Colbert, Toby Perkins, Katie Case, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods
Absent: Nancy Elliott, Dean McManus

Health Care Committee · September 8, 2015
Present: Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Connie Barker
Absent: Scott Wood, Steve Woods

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Legislative Session
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
September 18, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION

AGENDA ITEM #4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 21, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #5 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #6 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair David Woerz

PR32-007 Amendments to Title 5, Articles C,E, H and N and Title 6, Chapters 1 and 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Courts an Procedures; Domestic Relations and Families)

PR32-008 Amendments to Title 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Beverage Control Act of 2007)

(B) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

GR32-042 Approval of Application for Funding U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Special Diabetes Program for Indians

GR32-043 Application for Membership, National Congress of American Indians

GR32-044 Assurances for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Southern Plains, Office of Native American Programs

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT

Count of Voters by District

District	Count
Panola	2,113
Pickens	8,829
Pontotoc	14,157
Tishomingo	6,124
Total	**31,223**

Voters by District

CDL-A Drivers
Hiring for plant hauls,
Pneumatic work.
Benefits and assigned trucks.
McCorkle Truck Line, Inc.
2132 SE 18th, OKC,
800-727-2855

Accounting • Tax Preparation • Payroll
Milissa Nichols
(580) 223-2488 ~ office
(580) 504-4627 ~ mobile
Nichols Accounting Service
milissanichols@sbcglobal.net

AUGUST 2015 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
August 21, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson Connie Barker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL
Members present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
Member absent: Steve Woods
Staff present: Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary; Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms; Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel
Guests present: James Hunnicutt, Dana Lance, Michel L. Wingo, Mike Watson, Judy Foster, Logan Scott, Rick Scott

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION
Invocation was given by Ms. Green.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - July 17, 2015
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Case to approve the July 17, 2015 minutes.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
12 yes votes
The motion to approve the minutes of July 17, 2015 carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Dean McManus

General Resolution Number 32-039, Application for Grants under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's grant application for the Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative from the United States Department of Health and Human Services through the Indian Health Service, Division of Behavioral Health.
Grant funds will be used to develop culturally appropriate and community relevant prevention, intervention and postvention services for Chickasaw and other Native Americans in the areas of suicide and substance use disorders. The grant proposal is not to exceed $300,000 per year during the five year grant cycle, September 30, 2015, through September 29, 2020.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR32-039.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
12 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-039 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-040, Authorization to Apply for Grants and Consolidate Funding

Public Law 102-477 permits the consolidation of funding received for the Pathways-To-Success program, an integrated set of services provided by the Chickasaw Nation Division of Social Services. Many clients seeking assistance have significant barriers to employment such as chronic underemployment, homelessness, academic deficiencies and no support system. The program strategy focuses on equipping clients with life skills critical to self-sufficiency. To improve the quality of life for our vulnerable clients, the Chickasaw Nation Pathways-To-Success program will invest in case management, counseling and life skills training to increase each client's ability to reach his/her potential while decreasing the client's dependence on financial assistance.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Hammond to approve GR32-040.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
12 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-040 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-041, Application for Grants under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative

This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's grant application for the Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative from the United States Department of Health and Human Services through the Indian Health Service, Division of Behavioral Health. Funding from this grant will continue the current Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) services in place and expand forensic healthcare services to include Domestic Violence Nurse Examiner (DVNE) services. This funding will also maintain one staff position, the Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative Coordinator. The grant proposal is not to exceed $200,000 per year during the five year grant cycle, September 30, 2015 through September 29, 2020.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to approve GR32-041.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
12 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-041 carried unanimously.

Ms. McManus concluded her report.

(B) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

General Resolution Number 32-038, Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Love County

This resolution approves the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation to accept real property being donated by the Housing Authority of the Chickasaw Nation. The property is located at 105 SW 3rd Street, Marietta, Love County, Oklahoma. The Governor is further authorized to request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to place the property U.S.A. in Trust for the Chickasaw Nation after acquisition, if such action is advantageous.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to approve GR32-038.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Connie Barker
12 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-038 carried unanimously.

Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)
There was no new business to discuss. Mr. Mike Watson made comments regarding the acceptance of the Timberland Case.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT
The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Elliott, Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by,
Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

SEPTEMBER 2015 RESOLUTIONS

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-042
Approval of Application for Funding
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Special Diabetes Program for Indians

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the Office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation has a compelling interest in improving the health of Native Americans through special diabetes prevention and treatment services, and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has announced the availability of funding through the Indian Health Service for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation is eligible to apply for funding under this opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature approves the submission of a grant application for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on September 18, 2015, by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's grant application for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service. Diabetes is a complex and costly chronic disease that requires tremendous long-term efforts to prevent and treat. Although diabetes is a nationwide public health problem, American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people are disproportionately affected. The Special Diabetes Program for Indians focuses on treatment and prevention for Native Americans with diabetes, pre-diabetes and/or at-risk for type 2 diabetes. Grant funds will be used to enhance local diabetes treatment and prevention efforts.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-043
Application for Membership, National Congress of American Indians

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation wishes to retain its membership in good standing in the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation meets all requirements for tribal membership pursuant to Article II Section B(I) of the Constitution of NCAI, and

WHEREAS, based on the population of Chickasaw citizens of 61,444, the Chickasaw Nation shall be entitled to 180 votes at the NCAI annual convention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes and approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for membership in the National Congress of American Indians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Governor Bill Anoatubby is designated to serve as the delegate for the Chickasaw Nation at the annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians, with first alternate being Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel and the second alternate being Tribal Legislator David Woerz.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma on September 18, 2015, by a vote of 11 ayes 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for membership in the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). This is virtually the same application which is submitted to the Legislature for approval each year. The NCAI has been instrumental in supporting issues of importance to Native Americans. As an independent group, NCAI is representative of the largest concentration of Native Americans, and is often called upon by Congress to provide information and testimony on important Indian subjects. The Chickasaw Nation has been a member in good standing in NCAI since the early 1980s. This resolution names the representatives of the Chickasaw Nation to NCAI.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-044
Assurances for the Indian Community Development Block Grant Program
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Southern Plains
Office of Native American Programs

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Nation has been determined to be eligible by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to submit an application for a grant up to the amount of $800,000 to fund certain eligible Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program activities, and

WHEREAS, the grant program awards maximum points for a match of 25 percent (25%) of the total project cost to be furnished by the Chickasaw Nation as leveraging.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes and approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for an Indian Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $800,000 for a community facility by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the establishment of a Chickasaw Nation Head Start to be located in Sulphur, Murray County, Oklahoma.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Nation, in regard to such application, hereby makes the following assurances:

I. Prior to submission of the application, the Chickasaw Nation has published notices for the public hearing and followed traditional means of citizen involvement which may have included the following assurances:

a. furnished citizens information concerning amounts of funds available and range of activities that may be undertaken;

b. held one meeting on community development needs, at a time allowing participation by citizens;

c. developed and posted the community development needs, at a time allowing participation by citizens; and

d. afforded citizens an opportunity to review and comment on the Tribe's performance under active Community Development Block Grants.

II. Additionally, the Chickasaw Nation has:

a. considered all comments and views expressed by the tribal citizens and has modified its application as deemed appropriate; and

b. made the modified application available to citizens.

III. Future ICDBG projects will be directed to low and moderate income persons as required.

IV. No part of Paragraph II shall be construed to restrict the responsibility and authority of the Chickasaw Nation for the development of the application and execution of its ICDBG Program.

V. The new Chickasaw Nation Head Start will be constructed on land provided by the Chickasaw Nation in Murray County, Oklahoma.

VI. The Chickasaw Nation commits the 25% cash required to fund the construction of the Chickasaw Nation Head Start project that has a current cost estimate of $3,750,550 for a minimum cash commitment of $937,638 and $60,000 for operation and maintenance of the facility with such being provided annually through an operational budget.

VII. The Chickasaw Nation has devised and approved an operation and maintenance plan.

VIII. The Chickasaw Nation adheres to the federal program requirements pertaining to OMB Circular A-87, A-133 and the Common Rule Administration per regulation or guidance.

IX. The Chickasaw Nation Head Start project is included in a comprehensive plan, and active participation in tribal planning has occurred.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on September 18, 2015, by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Explanation: This resolution approves the Chickasaw Nation's application for an Indian Community Development Block Grant for a community facility funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, for the establishment of a Chickasaw Head Start in Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Presented by: Human Resources Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Permanent Resolution Number 32-007
Amendments to Title 5, Articles C, E, H and N and Title 6, Chapters 1 and 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code
(Courts and Procedures; Domestic Relations and Families)

SEPTEMBER 2015 RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the Office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, there is a need to affirm tribal sovereignty over areas of courts, procedures, domestic relations and families by making certain amendments to the Chickasaw Nation Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby adopts the following amendments to Title 5, Articles C, E, H and N, and Title 6, Chapters 1 and 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code, all other sections and parts of sections to remain the same (additions are shown in red, deletions are stricken through):

"**SECTION 5-103.18 FEES.**

A. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the Court Clerk of the District Court, or the Clerk of any other Court shall charge and collect the following fees:

1. For furnishing photographic copies of photographic records, or of typewritten script or printed records, per page $1.00
2. Approving bond or undertaking, including certificate and seal. $1.00
3. Making copy of an instrument of record or on file, first page. . . . . $ .50
   Subsequent pages (each). . . . . $ .50
4. Certifying and Seal. . . . . $ .50
5. Authentication of court records. $5.00
~~6. Issuance of Marriage License. . . . . 35.00~~
6~~7~~. Mailing any documents. . . . . $ 5.00
~~8. Issuance of Divorce Petition. . . . . $35.00~~
7~~9~~. Service of Process Per Attempt (in Pontotoc County). $40.00
   Service of Process Per Attempt (outside Pontotoc County). $60.00
   Service of Process Per Attempt (outside Chickasaw Nation). $100.00
8~~10~~. Issuance of Domestic Relations Petition. $35.00
9~~11~~. Copy of Chickasaw Nation Code regarding Domestic Relations $40.00
10~~12~~. Other applications. $30.00

B. Number 10~~12~~ above includes all post trial applications except applications for correction of court records (*nunc pro tunc*).

D. Number 7~~9~~ above establishes the following fees for service of process, said amount to be paid by money order (or if a member of the Chickasaw Bar Association, by check): forty dollars ($40) per service of process attempt and/or prisoner transport made anywhere within Pontotoc County; sixty dollars ($60) per service of process attempt and/or prisoner transport made within the Chickasaw Nation other than Pontotoc County, and one hundred dollars ($100) outside the Chickasaw Nation, plus mileage at the prevailing federal mileage rate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Prosecutor, the Division of Youth and Family and its departments therein, and indigent defense counsel shall not be charged any cost associated with service of process or prisoner transport. The Chickasaw Nation District Court is authorized to collect said fees for service of process and prisoner transports on behalf of the Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Department. Said fees, however, shall be detailed and transferred to the Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Department on a monthly basis to be used for the benefit of and to defray the costs for services performed by the Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Department. The Court is authorized to pay any such transport fees, mileage and per diem costs from the Court Fund.

SECTION 5-205.7 APPEARANCE BOND; ENFORCEMENT.

A. If a bench warrant or command to enforce a Court order by body attachment is issued in a case for ~~divorce, legal separation, annulment~~, child support, ~~or alimony~~, or in any civil proceeding in which a judgment debtor is summoned to answer as to assets, and the person arrested, pursuant to the authority of such process, makes a bond for his appearance at the time of trial or other proceeding in the case, the bond made shall be disbursed by the Court Clerk upon order of the Court to the party in the suit who has procured the bench warrant or command for body attachment rather than to the Chickasaw Nation as the Court shall direct for the payment of any sums due. The penalty on the bond or any part thereof, shall, when recovered, first be applied to discharge the obligation adjudicated in the case in which the bond was posted, and any excess shall be deposited in the Court fund. The party who is the oblige on such bond shall have the right to enforce its penalty to the same extent and in the same manner as the Chickasaw Nation may enforce the penalty on a forfeited bail bond.

B. Upon forfeiture of a bond payable to the Chickasaw Nation as ordered by the Court, including bail bonds, the Chickasaw Nation may enforce the penalty on the bond upon motion filed in the case by any method authorized for the execution of civil judgments. All amounts received upon such forfeited bonds as penalty shall be deposited in the court fund. The Court may, for good cause shown, vacate an order of bond forfeiture.

SECTION 5-208.7 DECLARATORY JUDGMENT.

The Court, in any actual controversy before it, shall have the authority to declare the rights of the parties in that suit in order to resolve disputes even though a money Judgment or equitable relief is not requested or not due. ~~In particular, the Court may issue its declaratory Judgment recognizing Chickasaw Nation common law marriages, render a divorce therein, and provide for the custody of children and division of property in such divorces.~~

SECTION 5-214.55 CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT; INCOME ASSIGNMENT OR GARNISHMENT PROCEEDINGS.

A. Pursuant to Section 6-102.2 of the Chickasaw Nation Code, in all child support cases arising out of an action for ~~divorce,~~ paternity or other proceeding, the Court shall order the wage of the obligor subject to immediate income assignment, with certain exceptions. Otherwise, any person awarded custody of and support for a minor child by the Court, upon proper application, shall be entitled to proceed to collect any current child support and child support due and owing through income assignment or by garnishment of any Chickasaw Nation Department or Agency or Business Enterprise, if the minor child is in the custody and care of the person entitled to receive the child support or as is otherwise provided by the Court or administrative order at the time of the income assignment or garnishment proceedings.

SECTION 5-1305.4 HUSBAND AND WIFE PRIVILEGE.

C. **Exceptions.** There is no privilege under this Section in a proceeding ~~for legal separation or divorce between the parties when the communication is relevant to the issues in the action for separate maintenance or divorce, or~~ in which one spouse is charged with a crime against the person or property of:

1. the other;
2. a Child of either;
3. a person residing in the household of either; or
4. a third person committed in the course of committing a crime against any of them.

~~Except in an action brought by the Chickasaw Nation to protect a Child subject to abuse, neglect, or other cause which is sufficient to maintain a juvenile court action, testimony received pursuant to this exception in an action for divorce or legal separation between the husband and wife may not be used or referred to in any other proceeding between either the husband or wife and third persons.~~ In a criminal proceeding, any testimony by the spouse in the defendant's behalf will be deemed a waiver of this privilege.

TITLE 6

"6. DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND FAMILIES"
CHAPTER 1
~~MARRIAGE~~

ARTICLE A
~~DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE~~"

Section 6-101.1 and 6-101.6 through 6-101.18 are deleted in their entirety. Sections; 6-101.32; 6-101.33; 6-101.38; 6-101.44; 6-101.46; 6-101.56 through 6-101.59; 6-101.61 through 6-101.66; 6-101.68; 6-101.69; 6-101.75 through 6-101.78; and 6-101.86 are deleted in their entirety.

Also deleted are the following sections which contain no language other than the word "Reserved": 6-101.17; 6-101.19 through 6-101.26; 6-101.34; 6-101.36; 6-101.40; 6-101.48; 6-101.52; 6-101.60; 6-101.67; 6-101.70; 6-101.71; 6-101.74; and 6-101.79 through 6-101.84.

All remaining sections shall be renumbered for a proper numerical sequence.

"**SECTION 6-101.5 ACTIONS THAT MAY BE BROUGHT; REMEDIES.**

A. Actions that may be brought under this Act are actions for ~~divorce, legal separation, annulment or~~ parentage. ~~Appropriate remedies regarding divorce, annulment, separate maintenance and the division of community property and debt shall be available at the Court's discretion as provided in this Act.~~"

SECTION 6-101.51 CARE, CUSTODY AND SUPPORT OF MINOR CHILDREN.

~~A. A petition or cross-petition for a divorce, legal separation, or annulment must state whether or not the parties have minor children of the Marriage. If there are minor children of the Marriage, the Court:~~

~~1. shall make provision for guardianship, custody, medical care, support and education of the children;~~

~~2. shall provide for the visitation of the noncustodial parent with any of the children of the noncustodial parent, unless not in the best interests of the children; and~~

~~3. may modify or change any order whenever circumstances render the change proper either before or after final judgment in the action, provided, that the amount of the periodic child support payment shall not be modified retroactively or payment of all or a portion of the past due amount waived, except by mutual agreement of entity, by agreement of the CSE or other entity. Unless the parties agree to the contrary, a completed child support computation form shall be required to be filed with the child support order.~~

SEPTEMBER 2015 RESOLUTIONS CONT'D FROM PG 15

AB. The social security numbers of both parents and the child shall be included on a child support order summary form which shall be filed with all child support orders.

B~~C~~. In any action in which there are minor unmarried children in awarding or modifying the custody of the child or in appointing a General Guardian for the child, the Court shall be guided by what appears to be in the best interests of the child.

C~~D~~. When it is in the best interests of a minor unmarried child, the Court shall:

D~~E~~. There shall be neither a legal preference nor a presumption for or against joint legal custody, joint physical custody, or sole custody.

E~~F~~. When in the best interests of the child, custody shall be awarded in a way which assures the frequent and continuing contact of the child with both parents. When awarding custody to either parent, the Court:

F~~G~~. In any action, there shall be neither a legal preference or a presumption for or against private or public school or home-schooling in awarding the custody of a child, or in appointing a General Guardian for the child.

G~~H~~. In making an order for custody, the Court may specify that:

H~~I~~. Except for good cause shown, a pattern of failure to allow court-ordered visitation may be determined to be contrary to the best interests of the child and as such may be grounds for modification of the child custody order.

I~~J~~. For any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section which the Court determines to be contrary to the best interests of the child, the prevailing party may be entitled to recover court costs, attorney fees and any other reasonable costs and expenses incurred with the action.

J~~K~~. Any child shall be entitled to support by the parents until the child reaches eighteen (18) years of age. If a dependent child is regularly and continuously attending high school, said child shall be entitled to support by the parents through the age of twenty (20) years or until the child graduates or leaves high school, whichever occurs first. No hearing shall be required to extend such support through the age of twenty (20) if the child is regularly and continuously attending high school.

K~~L~~. In any case in which provision is made for the custody or support of a minor child or enforcement of such order, the Court may inquire whether public assistance money or medical support has been provided by the Department of Human Services of the State of Oklahoma or any department of the Chickasaw Nation for the benefit of each child. If public assistance money or medical support has been provided for the benefit of the child, the Department of Human Services or appropriate department of the Chickasaw Nation shall be a necessary party for the just adjudication and establishment of the debt due and owing the State of Oklahoma or Chickasaw Nation for the just adjudication and establishment of paternity, current child support, and medical insurance coverage for the minor children in accordance with federal regulations.

L~~M~~. In any case in which a child support order or custody order or both is entered, enforced or modified, the Court may make a determination of the arrearages of child support.

SECTION 6-101.54 PREFERENCE OF CHILD CONSIDERED IN CUSTODY OR VISITATION ACTIONS.

A. In any action ~~for divorce, legal separation, or annulment~~ in which the Court must determine custody or limits of or period of visitation, the child may express a preference as to which of its parents the child wishes to have custody. The Court may determine whether the best interest of the child will be served by the child's expression of preference as to which parent should have custody or limits of or period of visitation rights of either parent. If the Court so finds, the child may express such preference or give other testimony. The Court may consider the expression of preference or other testimony of the child in determining custody or limits of or period of visitation. Provided, however, the Court shall not be bound by the child's choice and may take other facts into consideration in awarding custody or limits of or period of visitation.

SECTION 6-101.85 *EX PARTE* ORDERS~~; WRITS OF *HABEAS CORPUS*~~.

~~A.~~ The courts of the Chickasaw Nation in domestic relations cases are not authorized to issue *ex parte* orders, except in cases of emergency with findings of fact set forth within the order.

~~B. Writs of *Habeas Corpus* may be issued by any Judge of any court of the Chickasaw Nation in divorce actions, whether such Judge is presiding over said divorce action or not, provided that said Judge receives a written Application for Writ of *Habeas Corpus* and the writ provides a time and date certain for the matter to be heard in any court of the Chickasaw Nation.~~

SECTION 6-102.2 CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS TO INCLUDE PROVISION FOR INCOME ASSIGNMENT; VOLUNTARY INCOME ASSIGNMENT.

A. In all child support cases arising out of an action for ~~divorce,~~ paternity or other proceeding, the Court order the wage of the obligor subject to immediate income assignment, regardless of whether support payments by such parent are in arrears, unless:"

Article C, Marriage Ceremonies, shall be stricken in its entirety, including the title.

"**SECTION 6-401.6 ELIGIBILITY TO ADOPT BY STATUTORY PROCESS.**

A. The following persons are eligible to adopt a Child pursuant to this Chapter, and subject to the placement preferences of Section 6-201.9, "Placement Preferences":

1. a ~~husband and wife~~ married couple jointly;

2. either ~~the husband or wife~~ spouse if the other spouse is a Parent of the Child;

SECTION 6-602.7 CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.

No Indian domiciled in the territorial jurisdiction of the Chickasaw Nation may change his name except as provided in this Chapter 6, Article B, ~~or by marriage (Title 6, Chapter 1 Article C of the Chickasaw Nation Code), or by decree of divorce (Title 6, Chapter 1 Article A of the Chickasaw Nation Code),~~ or by adoption (Title 6, Chapter 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code), or by the courts of the State of Oklahoma pursuant to the Oklahoma Statutes."

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting in Ada, Oklahoma, on September 18, 2015, by a vote of ayes, nays, and abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Permanent Resolution Number 32-007
Amendments to Title 5, Articles C, E, H and N and Title 6, Chapters 1 and 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code
(Courts and Procedures; Domestic Relations and Families)

Explanation: This resolution amends Title 5, Article C, E, H, and N and Title 6, Chapters 1 and 4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code to eliminate the Chickasaw Nation courts' jurisdiction over divorce, legal separation and annulment actions.

Presented by: Legislative Committee

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Permanent Resolution 32-008
Amendments to Title 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Code
(Beverage Control Act of 2007)

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature has previously enacted rules and regulations for alcoholic beverage licensing known as the Beverage Control Act of 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature has previously enacted Chickasaw Nation Code Title 5, Chapter 15, Article F; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Legislature desires to amend those rules and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves and adopts the following amendments to Title 5 and Title 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Code, all other sections and parts of sections to remain the same (additions are shown in red, deletions are stricken through):

"**SECTION 3-201.1 TITLE.**

Be it enacted by the Tribal Legislature of the Chickasaw Nation assembled, that this Act may be cited as the "Beverage Control Act of 2007" (hereinafter "Act"), as amended. This Act is enacted by the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature under the authority of Article VI, Section 1 and Article VII, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, wherein the Legislature is required to prescribe procedures and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation.

SECTION 3-201.2 FINDINGS.

The Legislature finds that:

2. it is necessary to establish legal authority for the Chickasaw Nation, its agents, ~~servants and employees~~servants, employees, and licensees to engage in Alcoholic Beverage sales on tribal lands within the legal boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation, provided that such locations are in compliance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

SECTION 3-201.5 INSPECTION RIGHTS.

The premises on which beverages defined in this Act are sold or distributed shall be open for inspection by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission and/or its ~~staff~~ agents at all reasonable times for the purposes of ascertaining compliance with the rules and regulations of the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission and this Act.

SECTION 3-201.7 LICENSING AND APPLICATION.

A. In order to control the proliferation of establishments on Tribal Lands that Sell or serve liquor by the bottle or by the drink, all persons or entities that desire to Sell beverages as defined in this Act on Tribal Lands must apply ~~to~~ for and receive from the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission ~~for such~~ a license under this Act. A person desiring to serve Alcoholic Beverages as defined by this Act on Tribal Lands must apply for and receive from the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission a license under this Act.

B. Any person or entity applying for a license to Sell or serve beverages as defined in this Act on Tribal Lands must fill in the application provided for this purpose by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission and pay such application fee as may be set by the Chickasaw Tax Commission. Said applications must be filled out completely in order to be considered.

1. Any person 21 years of age or older or entity that is owned or controlled by an individual 21 years of age or older may apply to the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission for a license to Sell beverages as defined in this Act on Tribal Lands. A separate application and license will be required for each location where the applicant intends to Sell beverages as defined by this Act.

2. Any person 18 years of age or older, may apply to the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission for a license to serve Alcoholic Beverages as defined in this Act. Provided, no person under 21 years of age may be employed in the selling or handling of Alcoholic Beverages or serve in designated bar or lounge areas.

~~B. Any citizen of the Chickasaw Nation 21 years of age or older, or an enrolled citizen of a federally-recognized tribe 21 years of age or older, other person 21 years of age or older or entity that is owned or controlled by an individual 21 years of age or older may apply to the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission for a license to Sell or serve beverages as defined in this Act on Tribal Lands. Any person or entity applying for a license to Sell or serve beverages as defined in this Act on Tribal Lands must fill in the application provided for this purpose by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission and pay such application fee as may be set by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission. Said application must be filled out completely in order to be considered. A separate application and license will be required for each location where the applicant intends to serve beverages as defined in this Act.~~

C. ~~The person applying for such license~~Any person who holds a license pursuant to Section 3-201.7(b)(1) or (2) of this Act must at a minimum make a showing once ~~a~~ every two years, and must satisfy the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission, that he is a person of good character, having never been convicted of violating any of the state Alcoholic Beverage laws or the laws promulgated under this Act; that he has never been convicted of violating any of the gambling laws of Oklahoma, or any other state of the United States, or of this or any other tribe; that he has not had, preceding the date of his application for a license, a felony conviction of any of the laws commonly called prohibition laws; and that he has not had any permit or license to Sell any intoxicating liquors revoked in any county of Oklahoma, or any other state, or of any tribe; and that at the time of his application for a license, he is not the holder of a retail liquor dealer's permit or license from the United States government to engage in the Sale of beverages as defined in this Act.

D. The Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission shall receive and process applications and related matters. All actions relating to applications by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission shall be by majority vote. The Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission may, by resolution, authorize one of its members or ~~it's a member of its staff to~~ agent to issue licenses for the Sale of beverages as defined in this Act.

E. Each license shall be issued for a period not to exceed ~~one~~ two (~~1~~2) years from the date of issuance.

F. A licensee may renew its license if the licensee has complied in full with this Act; provided, however, that the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission or its agent may refuse to renew a license if it finds that doing so would not be in the best interests of health and safety of the residents of the Chickasaw Nation.

G. The Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission or its agent may suspend or revoke a license due to one or more violations of this Act upon notice and hearing at which the licensee is given an opportunity to respond to any charges against it and to demonstrate why the license should not be suspended or revoked.

SECTION 3-201.9 RULES, REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.

G. Except for persons possessing a valid license to serve beverages at designated locations as set forth in this Act, the following prohibitions shall apply:

1. No person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall consume~~,~~ or acquire ~~or have in his possession~~ any beverages as defined in this Act; provided, no person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall have in his possession Alcoholic Beverages as defined in this Act. No person shall permit any other person under the age of twenty-one (21) years to consume beverages as defined in this Act on his premises or any premises under his control. Any person violating this prohibition shall be guilty of a separate violation of this Act for each and every drink so consumed.

~~H~~2. Any person who shall Sell or provide any beverages as defined in this Act to any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall be guilty of a violation of this Act for each and every Sale or drink provided; provided, nothing in this Section shall be construed to criminalize the selling of Low-Point Beer by persons eighteen (18) years of age or older who (a) are employed by a licensed retailer of Low-Point Beer; and (b) make such sale in accordance with this Act.

~~I~~3. Any person who transfers in any manner an identification of age to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years for the purpose of permitting such person to obtain beverages as defined in this Act shall be guilty of an offense; provided, that corroborative testimony of a witness other than the underage person shall be a requirement of finding a violation of this Act.

~~J~~4. Any person who attempts to purchase beverages as defined in this Act through the use of false or altered identification that falsely purports to show the individual to be over the age of twenty-one (21) years shall be guilty of violating this Act.

~~K.~~H. Any person who is convicted or pleads guilty to a violation of this Act shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars ($5,000) or a combination of both penalties. In addition, if such person holds a license issued by the Chickasaw Tax Commission, the license shall be revoked.

~~L.~~I. When requested by the provider of beverages as defined in this Act any person shall be required to present official documentation of the bearer's age, signature and photograph. Official documentation includes one of the following:

1. driver's license or identification card issued by any state department of motor vehicles;

2. United States Active Duty Military Identification card;

3. tribally-issued identification card; or

4. passport.

~~M.~~J. The consumption of beverages as defined in this Act on premises where such consumption or possession is contrary to the terms of this Act will result in a declaration that such beverages as defined in this Act are contraband. Any tribal agent, employee or officer who is authorized by the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission shall seize all contraband and preserve it in accordance with provisions established for the preservation of impounded property. Upon being found in violation of this Act, the party owning or in control of the premises where contraband is found shall forfeit all right, title and interest in the items seized which shall become the property of the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission.

SECTION 5-1506.35 POSSESSION, PURCHASE, AND CONSUMPTION BY PERSONS UNDER TWENTY-ONE (21) YEARS OF AGE.

C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to criminalize possession of an Alcoholic Beverage by a person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age and who is in possession of an Alcoholic Beverage solely and exclusively for the purpose of serving such Alcoholic Beverage within the scope of a license from the Chickasaw Nation Tax Commission."

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on September 18, 2015, by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Permanent Resolution 32-008
Amendments to Title 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Code
(Beverage Control Act of 2007)

Explanation: This resolution amends Title 5 and Title 3 of the Chickasaw Nation Code to reduce the minimum age requirements for serving Alcoholic Beverages within the Chickasaw Nation from 21 to 18 in certain settings which would be in compliance with state law.

Presented by: Legislative Committee

GOURDget class with Dustin Mater

Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities will offer a GOURDget Class with Dustin Mater. Class will be 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 13, from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Arts & Humanities building, 201 N. Broadway Ave., Ada, and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 20 in the ARTesian Gallery & Studios, 100 W. Muskogee St., Sulphur.

Class is free and materials will be provided. Limited to 10.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

Chickasaw Nation offers domestic violence/abuse intervention programs

Do you know someone who has been affected by domestic violence?

Did you know domestic violence is expressed in ways that do not leave bruises, scratches or broken bones? Statistics gathered by the National Domestic Violence Hotline indicated nearly half of all women and men in the U.S. have experienced psychological aggression.

Someone with abusive tendencies will be creative in the type of abuse he or she exerts. Many states, including Oklahoma, have enacted a domestic violence protocol. It is a series of questions that first responders ask the person(s) being treated.

Some of the questions on the list might surprise you:

- Is he/she constantly jealous or wanting to control your daily activities?
- Has he/she ever tried to choke you?
- Is he/she unemployed?

For a complete list of questions, visit www.mnadv.org.

A 2011 study of Oklahoma High School students estimated, by age 18, more than one in five women and one out of 15 men would be physically assaulted by an intimate partner.

The numbers increase to one in three when referencing studies on Native American women.

Education about dating violence is key to domestic violence and sexual assault prevention. For information about Chickasaw Nation programs, including domestic violence, sexual assault or batterer's intervention, call (855) 405-7645.

To report abuse outside of Oklahoma, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-7233.

Patta Butcher silk painting class offered

SULPHUR, Okla. - ARTesian Gallery & Studios will host a beginning silk painting class from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 10, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14. The class for intermediate students will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The classes will be taught by full-time studio artist Patta Butcher. Patta has created art all her life and has been a professional artist for more than 30 years.

The ARTesian Gallery & Studios is at 100 West Muskogee Street in Sulphur.

For more information, contact the ARTesian Gallery & Studios at (580) 622-8040.

Taloowa Chokma CD art contest

Attention Chickasaw youth age 13 to 18!

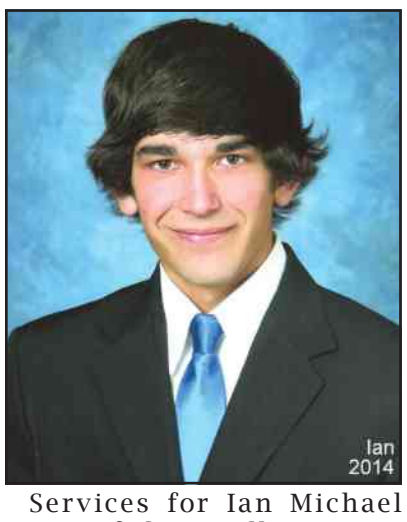
Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities is accepting entries for the "Taloowa Chokma'ski" cover of the 2015 Chickasaw Young Composers Recording Project. The classical music CD was composed by students who attended the 2012-2014 Chickasaw Summer Arts Academy.

Winner will receive a $500 cash reward.

The artwork for the cover can be 10" X 10" to 24" X 24" (square) in size and may be submitted on art paper, canvas or art board. Deadline for entry is Friday, Nov 20, 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Gwen Postoak at (580) 272-5520 or email gwen.postoak@chickasaw.net.

Ian Michael Pruitt



Services for Ian Michael Pruitt of the Enville community, Love County, Oklahoma were at 10 a.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2015, in CrystalRock Cathedral, Ardmore, Okla., with Rev. Don Keizor officiating, assisted by Dr. Walt Spradling. Interment followed in Lakeview Cemetery, Marietta, Okla., under the direction of Flanagan-Watts Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Marietta.

Ian Michael Pruitt was born April 23, 1996 in Ada, Okla., the son of Kelly Harris. He passed away near Enville, Okla., Thursday, August 27, 2015 at the age of 19.

Ian attended the Marietta Day Care, then Marietta Public Schools through the fifth grade, and graduated from Dickson High School with the class of 2014. He was an HVAC Tech Apprentice, having studied HVAC at SOTC for two years. Ian loved and respected his sister, Jenny and her husband Jeremy, as well as his brother, T.J. and his wife Brook. He dearly loved his friends and family, especially his nieces and nephews who pestered the life out of him. Ian delighted in vacationing and spending time with his sister Jenny and her family, and hunting, and fishing for bass and catfish with his brother T.J. Family gatherings were always of utmost importance to Ian . . . playing games, fishing, etc. with cousins and other relatives.

His hobbies included arrowhead hunting, bowling for which he had won many medals and trophies, hunting deer, turkey, opossums and armadillos, and playing video games with his cousins and baseball with friends. He also enjoyed installing stereo systems and speakers, and tinkering with the lawnmower and his trucks, in particular painting the dash yellow and orange/maroon. Ian was also an excellent artist. Even though he was color blind he had a very unique way with colors. In addition, he was a very talented guitarist and drummer.

He was preceded in death by his great-grandparents, Willard and Lois Willis.

Ian is survived by his momma, Kelly Harris, of the Enville community; sister and brother-in-law, Jenny and Jeremy Spradling; brother and sister-in-law, T.J. and Brook Williamson; nieces and nephews, Jordan Rex Spradling, Jaedyn Lynn Spradling, Karly Jade Williamson, and Briar Coy Williamson; grandparents, J.C. Harris, and Claudia and Jerry Vaughn; aunts and uncles, Pam and Jimmy Kerley, Kathy and Regan Kester, and Kim and Brad Goss; and numerous cousins.

Serving as pallbearers were T.J. Williamson, Briar Williamson, Jeremy Spradling, Jordan Spradling, Dustin Davis, Regan Kester, and Luke Vinson. Honorary bearers were Dylan Radford, Landon Gross, Landon Spradling, Cody Parkhill, Jason Wilson, Barry Dean, Chase Pollard, Jason Hall, Dylan McGee, Ty Gilbert, Chad Gill, Dustin Gill, Chris Williams, Brandon Wineblood, Hailey Williamson, Meagan Williamson, Jeremiah Vinson, Jake Vinson, Zach Vinson, Brandon Mathews, Matt McAnally, Ty Kester, Jeremy Kerley, Brad Goss, Jimmy Kerley, and all of his favorite cousins.

Services were at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 1, 2015, in CrystalRock Cathedral, Ardmore, Okla., with Rev. Don Keizor officiating, assisted by Dr. Walt Spradling. Interment followed in Lakeview Cemetery, Marietta, Okla., under the direction of Flanagan-Watts Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Marietta.

Bobby Ray Gunter

Bobby Ray Gunter of Wayne, Oklahoma went to his heavenly home on Monday, Aug 31, 2015. Bobby was a proud Chickasaw Indian and showed it in every way. He was born Jan. 31, 1938 in Stratford, Oklahoma to Cecil Gunter and Anna (Garside) Gunter.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother Charles Edward Gunter. He will be greatly missed by all.

He is survived by his wife Susie (Ortiz) Gunter and five children: Mary Ellen Warlick; Barbara Gunter; Bobby Dewayne and Tammy Gunter; Bobby Ray and Brenda Gunter JR; Rhonda Gunter Hastings, six grandchildren and sixteen great grandchildren, his brother Ernest and Gerry Gunter of Sacramento, CA., and four sisters: Sarah Self of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Pat and Ray Daniels of Sulphur, Oklahoma, Elizabeth and BJ Johnson of Norman, Oklahoma, Donna and Carl Roberts of Shawnee, Oklahoma and numerous nieces and nephews.

We have to say a very special Thank You to all the nurses and staff at Norman Specialty Hospital for the care and kindness they gave to our loved one...

Peggy Louise Crummey

Graveside services for Peggy Louise Crummey, 76, of Wilson, Okla., were 11 a.m. Monday, August 24, 2015, at the Leon Cemetery under the direction of Alexander Funeral home.

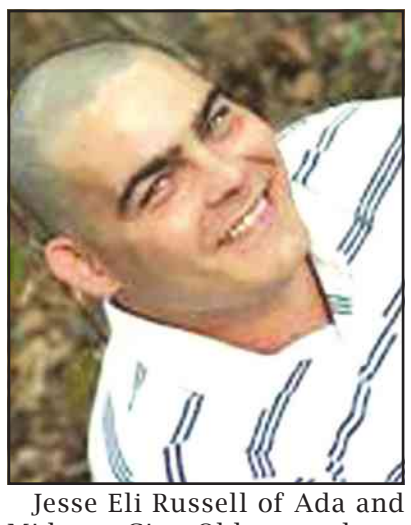
Peggy was the granddaughter of Original Chickasaw Enrollee Nancy Burris. She is survived by her daughters who are Tribal employees, Kathy Jo Hays, and Lisa Ann Arledge both of Ardmore, and a son Michael Keith Arledge of Courtney, a sister, Deborah Kay (Crummey) Morris of Liberty, Missouri; grandchildren, Justin Keith Arledge and wife Haley, Cain Arledge, Milissa Nichols and husband, Joey, Tribal employee Ashley Hays and fiancé, Jay Davis; great-grandchildren, Jacob, Jordan, and Kassie Nichols, Jillian and Carter Arledge; numerous other family and friends.

Peggy Louise Crummey was born on January 18, 1939, at Ardmore to the late Melton Ray Crummey and Josie Velma (Mauldin) Crummey. She departed this life Friday morning August 21, 2015, at Lake Country Nursing Center of Marietta.

Peggy was raised at Burneyville attending school at Courtney. She later spent her days farming and ranching for local farms. She really enjoyed visiting flea markets. Peggy loved the casinos and her many visits to Las Vegas. She was also a past member of the Rubottom Baptist Church.

Preceding her in death were parents, Melton Crummey and Josie (Mauldin) Crummey.

Jesse Eli Russell



Jesse Eli Russell of Ada and Midwest City, Okla., was born September 10, 1982 to Ronnie and Mary (Biege) Russell. He attended Byng and Nicoma Park Schools, where he enjoyed playing sports, especially baseball. He had a lifelong love of the sport, most especially the Boston Red Sox. Jesse will be remembered by all who knew and loved him as a gregarious, generous, and somewhat mischievous man who had a special place in his heart for animals. After fighting a brave battle against glioblastoma, Jesse went home to be with the Lord on September 6, 2015. His earthly presence will be missed by many, but we rejoice in knowing that we will see him again someday in heaven.

Jesse was preceded in death by his father, Ronnie Russell; paternal grandparents, RD and Inez Russell and Benny and Pauline Fisher; maternal grandparents, AR and Sissy East; and many other loved ones.

Jesse is survived by his daughter, Peyton, of Yukon who was the absolute light of his life and the reason he fought the cancer so very hard to his last breath; his son, Jordon Morgan, of Yukon. He is also survived by his parents, Donny and Mary Fisher, of Midwest City; sister Ronda Sockey and husband, Motley Allison, of Ada; sister Casey Vogt and husband, Justin, of Oklahoma City; sister Ralania Tignor and husband, Jimmy, of Stonewall; and sister Karri Licea and husband, Joce, of Stonewall. His wife, Amanda Boardman Russell. Jesse is also survived by several nieces and nephews who he cared greatly for including: Taylor Rice, McKenzie Sockey, Ashton Henderson, Rumor LeJeune, Emily Anderson, Maleonia Vogt, Daniel Licea, Dalton Anderson, Rike Allison, Chazden Padilla, Dakota Licea, and Korbin Sellars, as well as a whole host of extended family and friends. Jesse's faithful companion and loving friend, Jennifer Cooksey of Midwest City, was with him through thick and thin to the very end.

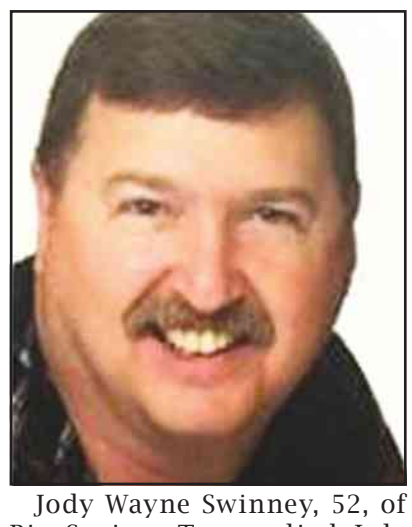
Services were Friday, September 11, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Criswell Funeral Home in Ada, Dr. Dalton Young will officiate. Jesse will be interred at Oakman Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Motley Allison, Steve Flora, Joce Licea, Steve Mullins, Jimmy Tignor, and Justin Vogt. Honorary Pallbearers are John Bush, Leon Pannell, Jesse Pepper, Billy Stephens, and Brandon Stephens.

The family appreciated the care provided by Frontier Hospice, St. Anthony's Hospital, Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, and Mercy Hospital of Ada Cancer Care Center.

Obituaries may be viewed and online condolences sent to criswellfh.com.

Jody Wayne Swinney



Jody Wayne Swinney, 52, of Big Spring, Texas, died July 17, 2015, in a motor vehicle accident. Funeral services were at Trinity Baptist Church with Randy Cotton and Joey Bacon officiating.

Mr. Swinney was born in Ranger, Texas on June 5, 1963 to Johnny Swinney and Jayme Barker. Jody graduated from Sam Houston High School in 1981, where he excelled in soccer and tennis. He married Teri Marie Orr on March 20, 1993.

Jody loved football, horses, working with kids and mostly his family. He was a member of the Chickasaw Nation and was proud of his Indian heritage. A favorite activity was attending his daughter's high school football games and cheering enthusiastically from the stands. His daughters say he loved Reese's candy and teasing them. A devoted father and husband, most of the family photos he's behind the camera capturing thousands of memorable moments. Jody was an active member of Trinity Baptist Church.

Jody and Teri moved to Big Spring in 1999 after living and working in Fort Worth, Texas and Taos, N.M. They were the owners/operators of the Big Spring Sears Dealer Store for more than 11 years. He was most recently a Claim Service Analyst for Allstate Insurance Company.

He was survived by his wife Teri; daughters Alysha, 19, Miranda, 17, and Bailey, 16; mother, Jayme Barker of Grandbury, Texas; father and step-mother, Johnny and Betty Swinney of Ranger, Texas; sisters, Janet Swinney of Big Spring, Texas and Jayne Swinney of Granbury, Texas; and many nieces and nephews, as well as his "little brother" James Parsons of Fort Worth, Texas.

Arrangements were by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Melissa Antionette Medusa Sampson

Services for Melissa Antionette Medusa Sampson, 43, of Ardmore, Okla., were Aug. 28 at the Criswell Funeral Home Chapel, Rev. Raymond Lampkin officiated. Burial followed in High Hill Cemetery.

She died Sunday, August 23, 2015 at an Oklahoma City hospital. She was born January 7, 1972 to Charles Sampson and Loretta Sue Cass in Ada. She attended school in Oklahoma City.

Ms. Sampson was employed by Wal-Mart of Oklahoma City and as a cashier at the Newcastle Casino.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Howard and Delma Easley, Cora Taylor and Newton Cass; nephew, Dewaylon Cruse Easley and uncle Gary Easley.

Survivors include her mother, Loretta Easley and husband Joe Easley,Sr., of the home; father, Charles Sampson, Ardmore; three children, Skyler Linderman, Chase Linderman and Shannon Sampson;two grandchildren, Zane and Rosalena Linderman; four sisters, Marlene Moore, Rita Perry and husband Eddie, Jennifer Sampson and Kristin Sampson; five brothers, Monte Sampson and wife Kelly, Joe Easley, Jr. and wife Kristina, Calvin Easley and wife Linda, Greg Sampson and girlfriend Chasee Wilson and Dustin Sampson.

Bearers were Dustin Easley, James Street, Raymond McCullar, Johnny Willis, Chris Easley and Levi Willis. Hononary bearers will be Joe Easley, Jr., Monty Sampson, Gregg Sampson, Damion Easley, Calvin Easley and Dustin Sampson.

Obituaries may be viewed and online condolences sent to criswellfh.com.

Programs & Services Directory available

The 2015 Programs & Services Directory is now available for download at Chickasaw.net/servicedirectory. Hard copies will soon be mailed directly to all Chickasaw citizens. The Programs & Services Directory contains information about all tribal programs and services. Inside the directory are program descriptions, contact information and office locations.

EAT BETTER
bedré CAFE
A better CHOICE
NOW OPEN IN ADA
MONDAY–FRIDAY, 7AM–3PM
LOCATED IN THE CARL ALBERT BUILDING AT 1001 N. COUNTRY CLUB RD.

Chickasaw Nation Youth Stickball team

The age-old tradition of Chickasaw stickball has made its way to our modern world.

"It's fun to see the kids when they're first learning to play stickball, to watch them learn and progress. When they start, they can't do anything, and they think they'll never make it. Then they gradually learn to pick up the ball with their sticks while running at full speed, and catch the ball in the air and throw it fifty or sixty yards, and to hit the goal consistently."

That's what Chickasaw stickball player Clovis Hamilton says about why he coaches the Chickasaw Nation Youth stickball team.

"We organized a Chickasaw Nation adult team, and then decided we should also have a youth team. They asked me to coach, he said.

"It's been great. It's so satisfying to see them develop. They've accomplished something. In turn, they bring their friends and schoolmates and begin to teach them. They know something they can teach. They even bring non-Native Americans who want to learn."

Mr. Hamilton is the Language Outreach Coordinator at the Chickasaw Language Revitalization Program of Chickasaw Nation History & Culture. He began working in the Chickasaw Nation School-to-Work program in 2007 and has been with the language program since 2011.

"Some adults bring their sticks and practice with us," he said. "Sometimes we let the kids play against the adults. The kids think it's cool, especially when they beat us."

Safety considerations dictate the youth are divided into two age groups: ages eight through 12 and ages 13 through 17.

"At eighteen, they move to the adult teams," he said. "Sometimes 16- and 17-year-olds want to play on the adult team. They're allowed to if their parents sign a consent form, but they usually wait until they're 18."

The tribe has sticks for those who don't have their own.

"No one goes without equipment," he said. "They can check out a set, then turn them after practice or a game."

Several youth don't participate in sports at school, so playing stickball gives them the opportunity to be part of a team and play against other youth.

"It's a good opportunity for them to be included in an important activity," Mr. Hamilton said.

The game is also a time to teach Chickasaw language. Using Chickasaw language words for stickball terms gets the youth familiar with them and learn them through use. Mr. Hamilton's plan is to increase their use gradually.

"It's a chance for them to learn Chickasaw culture."

The Chickasaw Nation is participating in the Choctaw Nation youth league.

"The Choctaws have five teams, and they've been inspiring to us as we bring stickball back to our youth," Mr. Hamilton said. "We're just getting started back, and playing in a league brings notoriety and helps us attract players. Of course, we still have to compete with baseball, basketball, soccer and football seasons. It's hard to find a time for the kids to practice, but this is the only sport some of the kids play."

The Chickasaw Nation's goal is to build teams across the Nation and have a Chickasaw league. Right now, the sport is in its beginning phase, and making a solid initial team is the immediate goal.

"Then we plan to spread out to other areas around the Nation," Mr. Hamilton said.

Stickball practices are Thursday and Sunday late afternoons. Mr. Hamilton urges youths who are interested in participating, or their parents, to contact him at (580) 272-5592 or at clovis.hamilton@chickasaw.net.

The team's name is Chikasha Bak Bak.

The 2015 Chickasaw Nation Youth Stickball team.

Chickasaw Nation Youth Stickball Team coach Clovis Hamilton watches his players compete for the ball at their team practice in Ada.

"I never thought of myself as a coach, but I like it," he said. "Stickball is an active sport, and it's cultural. I wish I had it growing up instead of being 22 or 23 when I started playing. It's a real important thing for Chickasaw young people."

Some parents and other adult team members help coach.

In the old days, nearly innumerable groups of warriors opposed each other. In fact, stickball was called the "war game," as tribe played against tribe. The winner of the "war" was triumphant. Every player gave all to the game, and with no rules except scoring, each team experienced injuries, sometimes major.

Today's game is not as rough and has definite rules. As for the number of players, Chikasha Bak Bak coach Clovis Hamilton said usually adult teams consist of about 30 players. If a team is made up of both men and women, the teams usually try for fewer than 10 percent women. He said this seemed to be traditional and hadn't heard a definite reason for these numbers.

Mr. Hamilton started playing stickball until his early twenties. It was never an interest, he said, until he played at the Kullihoma Reunion one year. He played again at the next reunion, and was hooked.

He joined the Chickasaw Nation's adult team and began learning to make his own sticks.

"Learning to make the sticks is a long process," he said. "There are not many stick makers in Oklahoma. You have to know who makes them, then find ones you like – you know, the style, the different-shaped cups."

Stickball sticks are most often made of hickory.

"Pecan, bois d'arc, ash, too, but hickory mostly," Mr. Hamilton said. "Most makers prefer the trunk sprouts to make them with. Sometimes they use a branch, but the base is stronger."

The balls used in the sport are also handmade.

"The outside is deer or rabbit hide and stitched with cord or rawhide," Mr. Hamilton said. "The inside is made of several materials. A long time ago, makers used rocks for the core, then wrapped cloth around it. Some used hickory nuts. Now a lot use golf balls as the core to make the weight they want. The ball needs enough weight to keep the wind from blowing it around."

Some balls will be larger or smaller, heavier or lighter, depending on the maker. Teams might use a different ball than their opponents. Players have to expect and adjust to that. Sometimes the host team will provide the balls, sometimes the visitors, sometimes both. Balls get torn up at times during games, and many balls just get lost. They get tossed into the trees and weeds that usually surround a field and are never found. Teams try to have from a dozen to 20 balls for a game.

Referees are important. In order to cover the play over an entire field, games call for about a dozen referees.

Chickasaw Nation Youth Stickball Team member Cameron Johnson catches the ball with his sticks, a vital stickball game action.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tom Bailey, Public Affairs.

DISCOVER THE CHICKASAW LANGUAGE

CHIKASHSHANOMPA'

a aa a̲ b ch f h i ii i k l lh
m n ng o oo o̲ p s sh t w y

THE CHICKASAW ALPHABET

The Chickasaw language, ***Chikashshanompa'***, was the primary dialect of Chickasaw people for hundreds of years. But today, fewer and fewer citizens know how to speak their native language, and the vast majority of fluent speakers are elders in the Nation.

That's why it's important to learn the language – speak it, write it, study it and share it to ensure it stays alive.

In the game at the right, see if you can match the Chickasaw word with its corresponding picture, then visit ***Chickasaw.tv/ChickasawTimes*** for the answers!

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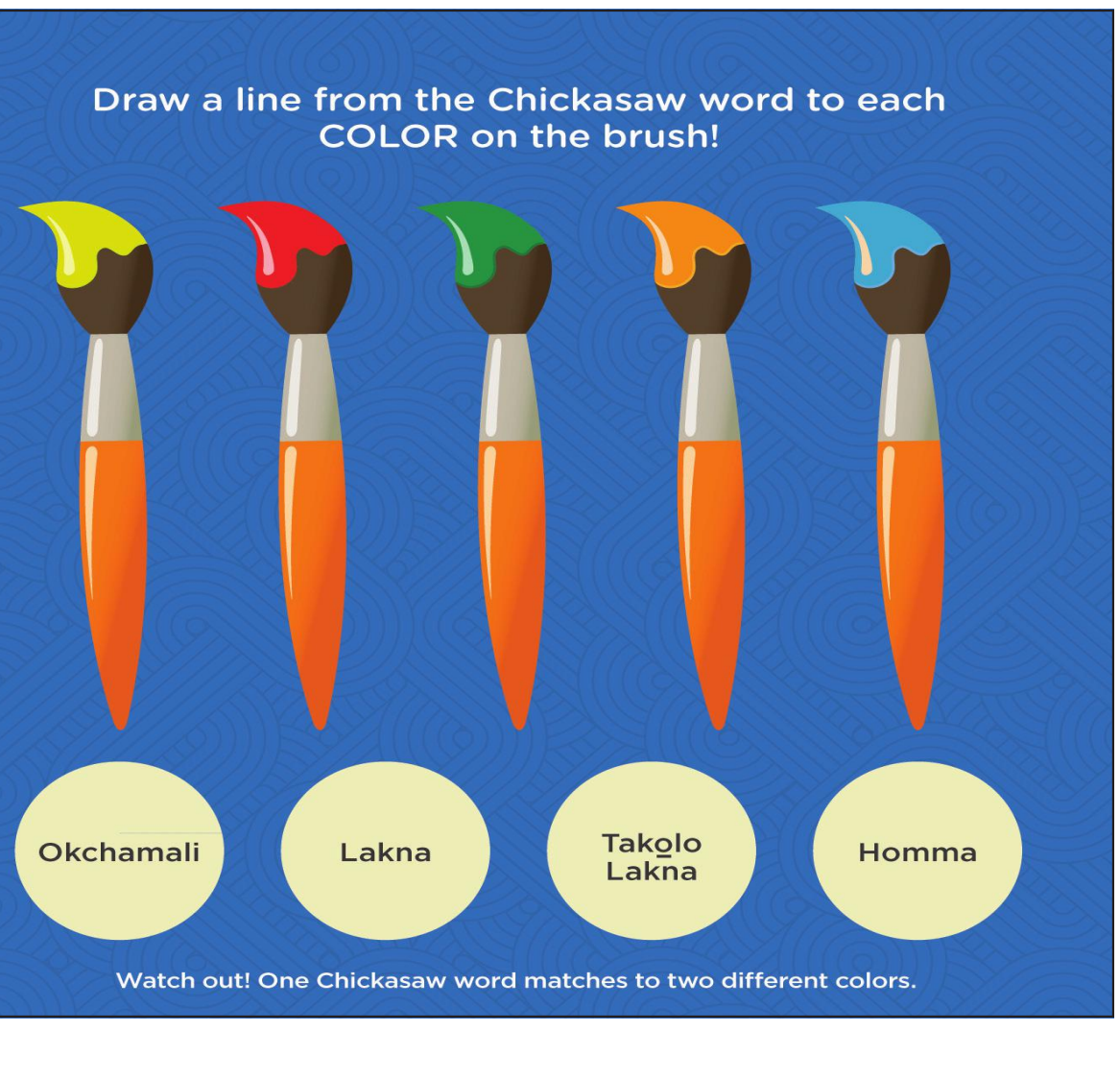
Draw a line from the Chickasaw word to each COLOR on the brush!
Okchamali
Lakna
Takolo Lakna
Homma
Watch out! One Chickasaw word matches to two different colors.